FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES REPORTS OF U.S. PROTEST

PY212123 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2113 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (TELAM) -- The foreign relations and worship minister this afternoon disclosed that Argentina has not received a note of protest from the United States.

The report states: "In view of press reports published today, which claim that the U.S. Embassy had allegedly submitted a note of protest regarding information published by the local media, the foreign relations and worship minister reports that there has been no such note."

According to certain media reports the alleged U.S. protest had originated from the leaking of a confidential document of the U.S. policy in Central America which Ambassador Harry Schlaudemann had given to Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari on 3 January before the latter travelled to Nicaragua to attend the meeting of nonaligned countries.

DELEGATION OF U.S. CONGRESSMEN ARRIVES 20 JAN

PY202317 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2020 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 20 Jan (TELAM) -- A delegation of U.S. congressmen headed by Democrat Michael Barnes began today a 4-day visit to our country with the objective of improving relations with Argentina, as they themselves stated.

Barnes and his colleagues -- Barbara Mikulski and David Bonier -- are members of the Committee for Inter-American Affairs of the House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee. They all belong to the U.S. Democratic Party.

'Frank Dialogue' Reported

PY212150 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1515 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jan (TELAM) -- After the meeting of U.S. congressmen with Argentine officials, the San Martin Palace reported that during the meeting the visitors were briefed on the position of our country concerning the Argentine desire for negotiations as far as the Malvinas conflict is concerned.

In this regard, the San Martin Palace stated that the aspiration of our country is to negotiate within the framework of Resolution 37/9 of the recent UN General Assembly.

It adds that during the meeting, several subjects were discussed concerning bilateral relations and international relations in general, and that the current international economic situation was also discussed, paying special attention to the Latin American problems.

On stating that the meeting began at 1000 with an open agenda, the report adds that the exchange of ideas was carried out within a cordial climate and frank dialogue.

It concludes that on behalf of the delegation he is heading, U.S. Representative Barnes expressed satisfaction over the opportunity to be in direct contact with the Argentine reality and added that he will transmit his impressions to his colleagues in the U.S. Congress.

ARGENTINA DENIES REPORTS OF MILITARY PREPARATION

Government Communique

PY220038 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2305 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (TELAM) -- The Argentine Government today termed press reports on alleged military preparations in the South Atlantic a slanderous press campaign which can only be aimed at attempting to justify the overwhelming extracontinental military presence in that area. It also noted that our country is strictly observing the de facto cessation of hostilities existing with Great Britain.

In a communique released tonight, the Argentine Foreign Ministry states that this campaign is prompted by the British refusal to seek a solution to the conflict through negotiations and by its desire to improve its image in the eyes of the international community which favors negotiations. Furthermore, the British Government may also have predictable motivations of a domestic nature for this campaign on which we do not want to pass judgement.

The document states that in the face of international press reports on alleged Argentine military preparations in the South Atlantic, the Argentine Government denies these reports and declares that the Argentine Government is strictly observing the de facto cessation of hostilities.

The document also states that our country is strongly committed to finding a peaceful solution to the sovereignty controversy over the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands in keeping with the respective UN and OAS resolutions and the support Argentina received on this subject from the Nonaligned Movement.

Therefore, the communique states, the Argentine Government denounces this slanderous press campaign which can only be aimed at attempting to justify the overwhelming extracontinental military presence in the South Atlantic and the British refusal to seek a solution to the conflict through negotiations. The British Government thus seeks to improve its image in the eyes of the international community which favors negotiations. Furthermore, the British Government may also have predicatable motivations of a domestic nature for this campaign on which we do not want to pass judgment.

Finally, the Argentine Government reiterates its readiness, already conveyed to the UN secretary general, to resume negotiations on the subject with the United Kingdom.

Defense Minister's Statement

PY212318 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] In response to reports that the British troops stationed on the Malvinas Islands are reportedly on a state of alert for fear of a belligerent attack by Argentina, Argentine Defense Minister Julio Cesar Martinez Vivot stated today that we are not surprised about the British attitude. The defense minister reiterated that Argentina will not sign a cessation of hostilities, adding that we will maintain what we call an actual suspension of hostilities.

Argentina will maintain this position until the British, in keeping with the resolutions approved at the international forums, agree to begin serious negotiations at the appropriate level with Mr Perez de Cuellar's intervention.

Martinez Vivot noted that if the British are not willing to observe the resolutions approved at the international forums, Argentina will not relinquish its position either. The British attitude will force Great Britain to maintain the state of alert on the Malvinas at an undoubtedly very high cost.

Martinez Vivot stated that after the British prime minister's visit to the Malvinas Islands, this is the second stage of the operation being carried out by Great Britain to justify its unwillingness to negotiate despite the United Nation's request on the one hand, and on the other the need for having to justify maintaining troops in readiness for war [estado semibelico] to the British people. Maintaining troops in this condition will cost a lot of money to the treasury, but mainly to the British taxpayer who is very careful in this regard. As for the report broadcast worldwide by the BBC, Martinez Vivot stated that the report is likely to have resulted from the recent NATO meeting. During the meeting, the British representative stated that the possibility of an invasion did in fact exist. Moreover, he made a detailed report mainly to explain the reasons why the British troops are not carrying out their specific functions within NATO.

The defense minister stated that one other reason which might have prompted the British to disseminate the false report, which he termed a serious event that cannot be ignored, is the intention to set up a base in the South Atlantic with some of its NATO allies. Argentina feared that this might happen. This British attitude will undoubtedly be an offense to the whole American Continent. The minister continued by stating that I think we must uphold our attitude and reject any assertion which is not in keeping with Argentina's real purpose which at this stage and moment is to negotiate and observe the UN resolutions.

Minister Martinez Vivot ended by rejecting the statements which maintain that the status of the negotiations is the same as that in 1965. He said that it is not so since now we are involved in a negotiation in which nobody less than the UN secretary general is participating. The minister stated that the result of this negotiation can only be the acknowledgment of Argentine sovereignty.

PRC PURCHASES ADDITIONAL 500,000 TONS OF GRAIN

PY222047 Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 20 Jan 83 p 18

[Text] Tong Zhi Guang, deputy general manager of China National Cereals, Oils and Foodstufs Import and Export Corporation, reported today the signing of an agreement with the National Grain Board [JNG] contemplating the purchase of an additional 500,000 tons of grain above and beyond the previously signed agreement.

The PRC representative arrived at the city of Bahia Blanca yesterday morning to visit the port of Ingeniero White. The PRC representative was accompanied by five other members of the PRC delegation and by JNG interventor Federico Dusel.

NICARAGUAN 'POLITICAL REFUGEE' ARRIVES 21 JAN

PY220029 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2212 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (TELAM) -- Well informed sources at Ezeiza airport disclosed this afternoon that Carlos Guillermo Eger Gonzalez, Nicaraguan political refugee, arrived in Argentina this afternoon.

The same sources stated that Eger Gonzalez, who entered the country as a political refugee, arrived on a flight of Lloyd Aereo Boliviano.

AEROFLOT TO OFFER SERVICE FROM MOSCOW 1 FEB

PY220227 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1552 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (NA) -- Beginning Tuesday, 1 February, the Soviet airline Aeroflot will begin its regular flights linking Moscow and Buenos Aires.

It was learned that the Argentine authorities had given assurances to German airline Lufthansa and French airline Air France that their services will not be affected by Aeroflot.

The appropriate agreement was recently concluded by Argentina and the Soviet Union during a visit made to our country by a delegation of Soviet officials.

Aeroflot has signed similar agreements with Peru and Cuba, among other Latin American countries.

REPAIRS, REDUCED OUTPUT OF NUCLEAR PLANT NOTED

PY222027 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2315 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (DYN) -- Energy Secretary Alieto Guadagni confirmed today that the Atucha nuclear plant has been virtually at a standstill not only for the past 3 months but since the second half of 1982. Guadagni attributed this situation to maintenance work at the plant and to the rains that have affected the entire country since the end of June 1982.

During an impromptu press conference, Guadagni stated that the rains, a situation which he described as "highly favorable for hydroelectric energy production," prompted the decision to order "the reduction of the Atucha plant's output" at the beginning of July. For this reason, the National Atomic Energy Commission decided to begin with the scheduled maintenance work and to stop the plant on 21 July.

The maintenance work was scheduled to conclude on 9 August. However the plant could not start operating again until 22 November because of major damage. The plant is delivering "a reduced amount of energy" to the interconnected system because the hydroelectric plants are able to handle all the needs.

UDP GOVERNMENT CRISIS REPORTEDLY SOLVED 22 JAN

PDC To Increase Participation

PY220304 Paris AFP in Spanish 0246 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jan (AFP) -- It was learned here today that the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) will increase its participation in the new Bolivian Government in which it only has one minister. Political sources pointed out that the participation of private professionals will also increase in the government of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) front.

Today President Hernan Siles Zuazo held meetings with the leaders of the Communist Party and the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI) -- to which he belongs -- to discuss the reorganization of his new cabinet. The swearing-in of the new cabinet has been announced for tonight or noon tomorrow, Saturday, at the latest.

Benjamin Miguel Harb, leader of the PDC and current La Paz mayor, stated that a greater participation of the PDC in the government will by no means mean that the government is leaning to the right, quite the contrary, we are militant democratic leftists and support the UDP program.

While the chief of state continues with his consultations, the six resigning ministers of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) handed over their posts and submitted a report of their short administration. This has been the outcome of government crisis which lasted 3 weeks.

Pressure To Oust PCB Reported

PY222221 Paris AFP in Spanish 0143 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jan (AFP) -- Communist deputy and mining leader Simon Reyes Rivero reported here today that the U.S. Embassy in La Paz and local private enterprises are exerting pressure to oust the Communist Party members from President Hernan Siles Zuazo's cabinet. Reyes, a high-ranking member of the Bolivian Communist Party (PCB), made these charges at the time President Siles Zuazo is analyzing the reorganization of his cabinet as a consequence of the resignation submitted to him by six ministers of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR).

The PCB member of the ruling coalition front Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP), is at the head of the Labor and Mining Ministries and strongly linked to the workers movement.

On the other hand, while Siles Zuazo analyzes the establishment of his new cabinet, authorities of the Interior Ministry attributed no importance to the rumors being spread yesterday on a possible coup d'etat.

It was stated that those rumors are groundless, that complete calm prevails throughout the national territory and that the alarming reports from Santa Cruz, 1,000 km east of La Paz, stating that paramilitary groups had allegedly planned to carry out direct actions were also groundless. It is believed that those rumors stemmed from the unrest which prevails in the country due to the lengthy cabinet crisis.

MNRI Refuses To Join Front

PY220059 [Editorial Report] La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish at 0000 GMT 22 January 1983 reports that the political crisis in Bolivia has not yet reached a solution, that President Siles Zuazo has not yet managed to reorganize his ministerial cabinet. Cadena Panamericana also reports that the dissident group of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] headed by lawyer (Federico Alvarez Plata), will not participate in the constitutional government because their demands were not met.

It was also learned that the constitutional president is currently meeting with different political leaders in an effort to reorganize his ministerial cabinet, Cadena Panamericana adds. It was also said that the under secretaries in the different ministeries will be ratified in their posts, so as to maintain the unity of the political front which is currently leading the reins of the nation, by decision of the 1980 congress, so states Cadena Panamericana.

COB Deadlines Role in Appointments

PY212210 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Regarding a suggestion by Vice President Paz Zamora, which was expressed during a joint meeting of UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] members and COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] representatives; COB leader Juan Lechin said that the COB thanked him for this proposal to appoint COB members to those cabinet posts that had been held by the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] but that the appointment of cabinet members was the exclusive prerogative of President Siles Zuazo.

12 Ministers To Retain Posts

PY220234 Paris AFP in Spanish 0213 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jan (AFP) -- The second cabinet of Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo will be installed tomorrow, it was officially reported here today.

It was noted that 12 of the 18 ministers will retain their posts and that the 6 posts left vacant by the resignation of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) ministers were already filled and that the respective names will be disclosed in the next few hours.

According to this report, the following ministers will retain their posts: Mario Velarde Dorado, foreign affairs; Mario Roncal, interior; Jose Ortiz Mercado, defense; Hernan Poppe Martinez, transport; Roberto Arnez, labor; Arturo Nunez del Prado, planning; Zenon Barrientos Manani, campesino affairs; Carlos Barragan, mining; Jorge Gonzales, information; Horacio Torres, minister secretary of the presidency; Jaime Ponce, urban development and housing; and Oscar Villa Urioste, aeronautics.

The posts left vacant by the MIR members and which will be filled tomorrow are: finance, industry and commerce, energy, public health, education and integration.

Presidential Decree on New Ministers

PY221815 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1630 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Decree read by presidential under secretary on the occasion of the swearing in of the new members of the Bolivian cabinet at Government House in La Paz -- live]

[Text] Presidential Decree 18,338.

Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo, constitutional president of the nation, whereas:

The ministers of finance; education and culture; industry, commerce and tourism; public health and social security; energy and hydrocarbons; and integration have submitted their resignations, which had been accepted by the president of the nation;

The minister of information has also submitted his resignation, which was also accepted by the president of the nation;

It is the purpose of the chief of state to reassemble the cabinet with the cooperation of capable individuals of well-known moral and political standing;

The constitutional president of the nation, exercising the powers bestowed on him by the Constitution, hereby decrees,

Article 1. The following ministers are hereby appointed:

Minister of Finance	appointment pending
Minister of Education and Culture	appointment pending
Minister of Industries, Commerce and Tourism	Javier Luppo Gamarra
Minister of Public Health and Social Security	Dr Javier Torrez Goitia
Minister of Energy and Hydrocarbons	Dr Jorge Medina Pirelo

Article 2. Jorge Gonzalez Rodas is appointed minister secretary general of integration and Dr (Mario Rueda Pena) is appointed minister of information.

Article 3. The ministers thus appointed will take their oaths in the course of the ceremony that will be held at Government House at 1230 today.

Government House, La Paz, 22 January 1983.

Swearing-In Ceremony Broadcast

PY231654 [Editorial Report] La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish at 1630 GMT begins the live broadcast from Government House in La Paz of the swearing in ceremony of the new Bolivian cabinet.

At 1633 the announcer reads the decree naming the new ministers.

At 1636 GMT Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado speaks for the cabinet expressing gratitude for the ministers who retain their positions and for the new designations and declaring the political crisis overcome.

PLOT TO OUST SILES UNCOVERED, COUP 'IMMINENT'

PY211818 Paris AFP in Spanish 1703 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jan (AFP) -- A plot to oust President Siles Zuazo was uncovered at 1500 local time (1900 GMT) yesterday in the department of Santa Cruz, Bolivia's second most important. This was reported today by a morning paper which blamed it on paramilitary groups.

The newspapers said that individuals who belong to paramilitary groups and are former agents of the despicable repression organs of the military regime were spotted walking near and watching union and party offices in Santa Cruz.

Among those offices, the newspaper mentioned those of the Departmental Labor Federation (COD), and of the Secretariat of the Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MIR) which was being closely watched by those individuals.

Word circulated in Santa Cruz that the coup was imminent, but nothing happened after a tense wait.

The Santa Cruz Prefecture, it is noted, has made a call for unity to confront the enemies of democracy who are about to stage a coup against the constitutional regime of Siles Zuazo.

3 Departments Declare Emergency

PY221546 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Oruro, Tarija and Beni are in a state of emergency. Workers and peasants of the three departments have declared a state of emergency to counteract possible subversive actions or abnormal or adverse situations that might be aimed at interrupting the present democratic process.

The report, made by Radio Illimani correspondents states that political and union representatives are aware that the democratic process led by Dr Siles Zuazo is a revolutionary process backed by the majority of the people. Moreover, the representatives are totally confident that a solution to the political crisis brought about by the cabinet ministers of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left will be found.

MNRI Leader Rejects Coup Possibility

PY211758 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Javier Ayoroa Argondona, an MNRI [National Revolutionary Movement of the Left] leader has noted that the present crisis the country is experiencing threatens the existence of the democratic process.

In addition to expressing his opinion about the present crisis within the UDP [Popular and Democratic Unity], Ayoroa Argondona appealed to all sectors to solve this problem within a framework of understanding and in keeping with the needs of the people in general.

The economic crisis characterized by speculation, hoarding and loan-sharking is affecting the majority of the people.

Ayoroa Argondona also said that the present situation does not favor a military coup. He said that at present no member of the Armed Forces can have these ideas.

[Begin Ayoroa Argondona recording] First of all because it is not a solution, since in the past, in the Garcia Meza government and the succeeding military governments, they were unable to solve the economic situation and even less to achieve a political solution.

The present conditions are the same or even worse than they were then. Therefore, it would be an even more reckless adventure than the one that was taken on in July 1980.

In view of this, I believe it would be very dangerous and improper for the Armed Forces to do something like that. [end recording]

Moreover, when asked whether he believed it was necessary to group all political forces to overcome the crisis he said:

[Begin Ayora Argondona recording] This confrontation within the UDP was evident as early as 1978 and 1979, when we founded the UDP. But since the MNRI was powerful at that time, the situation allowed for what may be called a hegemonic domination.

However, the situation is reversed today. The MNRI is in the minority and only the personality of its leader, Siles Zuazo, enables the MNRI to participate in the government.

VELARDE DISCUSSES RENEWED RELATIONS WITH CUBA

PY201512 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado has said that the resumption of diplomatic relations with Cuba is in keeping with the foreign policy guidelines that were officially announced on 10 October when the cabinet took office.

He added that this policy calls for the establishment of relations with all countries of the world regardless of ideology.

Velarde Dorado explained the reasons why the constitutional government decided to resume diplomatic relations with Cuba after almost 20 years. He noted that Bolivia did not suspend its contacts with Cuba as a result of the guerrilla activities headed by Che Guevara. He said relations were broken because of an OAS decision in keeping with the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR].

The foreign minister added that at that time, Bolivia, Mexico and Chile were the last countries to approve this OAS decision.

Verlarde Dorado said that the next steps in the resumption of Bolivian-Cuban relations will be in keeping with the Vienna convention of 18 April 1961. Moreover, he said that there is no rush in appointing a Bolivian ambassador to Havana.

After noting the role of congress in the resumption of Bolivian-Cuban relations, Velarde Dorado said that the Economy Ministry and other specific organizations and offices will be in charge of defining the areas of commercial exchange that can exist between the two countries.

ITAMARATY DECLARES 'BARAO DO TEFFE' ISSUE CLOSED

PY221549 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] After Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro had held talks with Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca, the Brazilian Government has decided to close the incident involving the antaractic ship 'Barao do Teffe,' which last Tuesday was intercepted by Argentine Navy ships and prevented from transmitting the Beagle Channel. The decision of the Brazilian Government has been disclosed by Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas.

Pericas said that in view of the talks held between the Brazilian and Argentine Governments and the official statement which the latter released in Buenos Aires on Thursday, Brazil considers the 'Barao do Teffe' incident closed.

IRANIAN MISSION SEEKS CLOSER TIES, MEETS GUERREIRO

PY220135 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Jan 83 p 7

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro yesterday met with an Iranian Government mission which came to propose closer Iranian-Brazilian relations. At the head of the Iranian mission was Mohammad Sadr, director general of political affairs for Europe and America at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, who met for more than 1 hour with the Brazilian foreign minister.

Brazilian relations with Iran have been cool and formal in recent years and trade is still quite restricted.

ANGRA NUCLEAR PLANT CONSTRUCTION PUSHED BACK

PY201228 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jan 83 p 17

[Excerpt] The construction of the Angra II and Angra III nuclear plants will be delayed for 1 year in view of the small investments the government has allotted to the Brazilian nuclear program, a Mines and Energy Ministry source stated. The lack of resources for Nuclebras has already caused the president of the republic to postpone for an indefinite period the beginning of the construction of the Iguape-1 and Iguape-2 plants on the Sao Paulo coast.

The delay in the construction of the Anga II and Angra III nuclear plants was practically confirmed yesterday by an adviser of Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals on reporting that the resources allotted to Nuclebras this year "are not enough to do much." The investments approved by SEST (Special Secretariat for the Control of State Enterprises) for Nuclebras amount to 179 million cruzeiros, which represent a nominal increase of 37.69 percent and a real drop of 22 percent over the amount invested last year, which totaled 130 billion cruzeiros.

LLOREDA SCORES U.S. REACTION TO NONALIGNED MOVE

PA231941 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1544 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jan (EFE) -- Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo today dismissed alleged U.S. reprisals against his country for its decision to join the Nonaligned Movement. Lloreda made a statement to the morning newspaper EL TIEMPO of Bogota. He said that it would be inconceivable to discriminate against Latin American republics which have opted to belong to the nonaligned group.

The foreign minister again defended the Colombian decision to join this movement. On refuting some criticism, he noted that it is true that in the past few years Cuba's presence in the movement has been noticeable and influential because Cuba holds the presidency. Lloreda insisted that this is only a temporary situation. The minister admitted that there may be occasional contrasts in the harsh language which some countries (of the nonaligned group) use to condemn attitudes of the United States and to denounce the expansionist policy of the Soviet Union.

"Perhaps the nations most sincerely committed to the nonaligned countries, which are the large majority, have failed to make themselves heard so that their statements can reflect the true spirit of the movement and its founders," he said. Lloreda Caicedo also noted that with regard to the Central American problem, Colombia aspires to no leadership position, much less to fill any existing vacancies.

RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA REPORTEDLY BROKEN

PA180248 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 13 Jan 83 p 3

[Text] Bogota (TAP) -- Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has said in Bogota that Colombia broke diplomatic relations with South Africa effective 1 January 1983.

This break, which includes the closure of a Consulate in Johannesburg, is considered here a new Colombian gesture in favor of its admission to the Nonaligned Movement.

REBEL EPL GROUP LOOTS SAN PEDRO, KILLS TWO

PA221458 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1607 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Bogota, 21 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Two guerrillas and two civilians were killed during an insurgent attack on a town in northwestern Colombia before dawn today, according to the Army High Command.

An official report stated that 150 armed men from the self-styled People's Liberation Army (EPL) cut the communications lines of San Pedro de Uraba, 800 km northwest of Bogota. They remained in the town for 4 hours looting businesses and banks and haranguing the people against the government.

The guerrillas shot two civilians to death in the town square. Another EPL group besieged the local police station for more than 3 hours. Two insurgents died in this action. There were no casualties among the police, the military report said. As the rebels fled, they wounded three civilians.

GALINDO LEAVES FOR GENEVA OPEC MEETING, TAIWAN

PA222238 Paris AFP in Spanish 1541 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Quito, 21 Jan (AFP) -- Gustavo Galindo, Ecuadorean natural resources and energy minister, left today for Geneva, where he will participate in an OPEC meeting. The meeting's participants will establish production limits that will serve to maintain oil prices on the international market. The energy minister will then continue on to Taiwan, where he will be involved in setting up a trade office, since Taiwan will buy 20,000 barrels of oil daily from Ecuador.

Galindo expressed his confidence that at the meeting of 13 OPEC member countries, which will open on Sunday, an agreement on production ceilings will be reached, the reference price will be confirmed and price differentials will be established. The Ecuadorean minister said that in his opinion limited production is the only way to maintain current world oil prices. Galindo believes that 18.5 million barrels per day is an appropriate prdouction ceiling for the organization.

Warns Against U.S. Maneuver

PA231444 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Gustavo Galindo, natural resources and energy minister, is optimistic that an agreement will be reached in setting national production quotas for OPEC member countries during Sunday's meeting in Geneva.

At a press conference Galindo stated that if Iran accepts the OPEC quota for its oil production, the meeting's success is assured. Referring to the U.S. practice of putting its strategic reserves on the international oil market, the minister said the United States seeks to destabilize the world market and obtain a bigger drop in the price of OPEC crude. He said that this is a harsh maneuver, but added that if we agree on the national production quotas, which should total 18.5 million barrels daily, we will succeed in stabilizing the market and the United States, a country with such vast industrial potential, will not be able to continue using its strategic reserves tc obtain a price drop, because in the long run such a price reduction could be extremely detrimental to the United States.

BODIES OF PERUVIAN SOLDIERS RECOVERED, RETURNED

PA220320 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] The National Defense Ministry, expanding previous information included in bulletin No 1, has announced that following the confrontations provoked on 18 January by Peruvian Army soldiers who entered our territory, the Peruvian military authorities on 20 January at the approach to the confluence of the Pastaza and Bobonaza Rivers, displaying a spear with a white flag on its tip, submitted a request to be allowed to look for four missing foldiers in our territory.

The request was turned down. Instead, our forces offered to carry out a search of the area to look for the missing soldiers. In the ensuing search, our patrols found the bodies of two Peruvian soldiers.

This was reported to the Peruvian military authorities, and the bodies were delivered to them. This took place at 1100 today, 21 January 1983, confirming the information contained in the previous bulletin issued by the National Defense Ministry of Ecuador. The document was signed by Gen Jorge Maldonado Villa, national defense minister.

LOPEZ ESCOBAR CANDIDACY FOR OAS POST REPORTED

PY200027 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 12 Jan 83 p 12

[Excerpt] At the end of a meeting held at the Foreign Ministry with members of the Paraguayan Foreign Service and high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials, Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues stated yesterday that the national government will soon promote the candidacy of Dr Mario Lopez Escobar for the Secretariat of the OAS.

In answer to a reporter's question, the foreign minister stated that this candidacy "is possible and that the government will take the appropriate steps in due time to promote the candidancy of Lopez Escobar." "He will be a great candidate for that important post," Nogues stated.

DAILY CRITICIZES LATEST GAS PRICE INCREASE

PY190210 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Jan 83 p 10

[Editorial: "Diesel Fuel Not Used for Production Must Not Be Subsidized"]

[Text] The latest unjustified price increase of gasohol and special gasoline, which is a new deteriorating factor in our economy as well as an indirect tax -- an unconstitutional tax since the legislation on this matter states that levying taxes is the exclusive prerogative of congress -- has made even more obvious the injustice inherent in subsidizing the price of diesel fuel for the unproductive sector of diesel automobiles, nearly all of them luxury automobiles.

This unjust privilege, which is not new since it has been maintained throughout other previous price increases for gasoline, became more glaring with the latest price increase; an increase which is sufficiently high to compensate for not increasing the price of diesel fuel which is needed by productive sectors such as agriculture, freight and passenger transport, etc.

Such compensatory measures positive by all accounts, is however disturbing because it has been benefiting for years a fleet of luxury cars with low-priced diesel fuel. In the past the allegation was that service stations could not charge two different prices for the same kind of fuel and, since the prices did not differ so greatly, there was some sort of justification and things went unchanged. However, the present situation is quite different because the latest gasoline price increase is recognized as a new tax on gasoline-driven vehicles. In order to treat everyone equally, some sort of fiscal measure should be applied to the diesel fuel automobiles so that they will not be subsidized by the gasoline-driven, that is, to do away with a situation in which the few are subsidized by the many.

As things stand now, the practical manner to do away with tax discrimination would be to levy an additional tax on diesel cars, taking into account the average fuel consumption by each kind of automobile -- the characteristics of which can be easily identified -- so as to equalize fuel consumption cost.

The existence of tax discrimination is a well known source of irritation, more so when it works to the benefit of those who have more. In the case we are discussing, the facts are clear with no exceptions, unless an unfair situation to the exclusive detriment of the middle class, which owns the large majority of gasoline-run cars, is to be maintained.

STATEMENTS ISSUED ON BORDER INCIDENT, CASUALTIES

PY221536 Paris AFP in Spanish 0208 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 21 Jan (AFP) -- The Peruvian Government admitted tonight that the border incident with Ecuadorean forces that took place on Tuesday caused casualties among Peruvian troops, but insisted that the incident took place on Peruvian territory.

The Press Secretariat of the Presidency stated that all reports are in the hands of the Armed Forces' Joint Command, including all verifications and evidence that the incident took place on the Peruvian side of the border.

It added that the command will issue within the next few hours a detailed report on the incident which, contrary to initial reports, took the lives of two defenders of our sovereignty.

The offical report concludes by saying that all responsibility falls upon the Ecuadorean forces, which caused the incident. The incident took place on the Pastaza River, a tributary of the Amazon River which crosses from one country to another.

Armed Forces Joint Command Report

PY221840 Paris AFP in Spanish 0443 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 21 Jan (AFP) -- The Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command reported in a communique released in Lima tonight that two Peruvian soldiers died and another soldier was injured by a bullet during the surprise attack carried out by an Ecuadorean patrol on a Peruvian patrol that was walking along a path in the Amazon jungle.

The communique states that the other two members of the patrol returned to the Peruvian border outpost safe and sound. The communique states that the Peruvian patrol was made up of three soldiers, one corporal and one second sergeant. The patrol, which was on an inspection mission along a path connecting the border outpost of Bobonaza with a border marker in the area of the Pastaza River, was unexpectedly attacked by an Ecuadorean patrol. The event occurred last Tuesday at 1600.

The communique adds that only two of the soldiers were bearing FAL rifles while the others were carrying machetes. One of the soldiers was sent back to the Bobonaza outpost to report the incident. The soldier arrived at the outpost at noon the following day.

The communique adds that the outpost's commander immediately took the necessary measures to bring the other four servicemen back to the outpost for the purpose of conducting an investigation ordered by the Army Command, However, the remaining four soldiers were not found at the place where the incident had occurred.

The servicemen, who were searched for by air, land and along the rivers, were not found. On 20 January the Ecuadorean Army informed the Peruvian Army that it had the bodies of two of the Peruvian soldiers.

A representative of the Peruvian Army received the bodies of Sergeant Federico Murayani and of Corporal Elmer Pacaza this morning. The representative said that the note acknowledging receipt of the bodies stated that the two bodies were carried on stretchers and then on a canoe along the Pastaza River as far as the Ecuadorean post of Ishpingo

The communique claims that the incident evidently occurred on Peruvian territory. The path, the communique says, runs parallel to the border. The soldiers knew the path well because they were raised in the jungle and they have inspected it on previous occasions. Moreover, the Pastaza River is a broad and torrential river that cannot be crossed without a canoe.

The communique adds that the soldiers who died during this unjustifiable encounter will be buried in their hometown tomorrow. The two soldiers were born in the city of Nauta. The communique noted that the dead soldiers were the only members of the patrol who were carrying arms.

The communique concludes by stating that although incidents of this kind are possible in border areas, it would seem that the northern neighbor country is inclined to provoke them whenever the anniversary of the Rio de Janeiro portocol approaches.

Two years ago, serious incidents took place more or less at the same time of the year in the Condor range, south of the place where this month's incident occurred.

SHINING PATH 'DESPERATELY FLEEING' SIEGE

PY221949 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2010 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 21 Jan (TELAM) -- Confirming remarks made 10 days ago by Peruvian Interior Minister Rincon Bazo that under no circumstances will the government allow a dialogue with subversion, but that on the contrary, no truce will be granted to the rebels until every last trace of guerrilla activity is completely weeded out of Peru, joint military and police forces had another violent armed clash with subversives in Pampa Cangallo, in the region of Ayacucho Department. Twenty members of the Maoist group Shining Path were killed.

The confrontation took place late yesterday afternoon and was reported today in Lima. According to reports from Ayacucho, an advanced group of 25 guerrillas tried to take the town of Pampa Cangallo by assault. They were severely beaten back by government forces with only five guerrillas managing to escape alive. However, it was said that those five were also wounded. There were only two wounded among the military and the police.

Military sources have stated here that with these 20 casualties, a total of 50 guerrillas have been killed during the past few days and that the members of Shining Path have lost many weapons and much ammunition. It has said in this regard that a field hospital was found and seized in the district of Paccha Vinchos. The insurgents had supplied that hospital with modern surgical instruments and kept high quality medicines in store. It is believed that the insurgents tended to and even operated on their wounded there.

The military and police high command concluded by saying that for the moment the insurgents are desperately fleeing the siege of which they are the object. This proves the success of the action put into effect by the government against the armed insurrection.

'THOUSANDS' PROTEST U.S. POLICY ON EL SALVADOR

PA232002 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Text] Thousands of persons gathered in front of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City to demand an end to the U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

The demonstrators gave the U.S. Embassy a letter condemning Washington's policy toward El Salvador. They distributed leaflets stating that on 22 January 1932, the Salvadoran people wrote, with the blood of 30,000 martyrs, the first page of a lengthy struggle headed by Agustin Farabundo Marti.

SILVA HERZOG TOURS U.S., EUROPE FOR DEBT TALKS

FL212050 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1910 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 21 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Finance and Public Credit Jesus Silva Herzog met in New York today with the foreign banks' advisory group to negotiate the rescheduling of Mexico's foreign debt and acquire the $5 billion credit line.

The Mexican official began a tour which will also include France, England, Germany, Switzerland, Spain and Japan. The tour will conclude on 5 February.

The finance minister's talks in New York and Europe will center on the official $2-billion support which the countries of the area have promised Mexico for 1983 and the $5 billion granted by 25 international private banks.

JORGE CASTANEDA NAMED AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE

FL212019 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2012 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Secretariat reported that the former secretary of foreign relations, Jorge Castaneda de la Rosa, today was appointed Mexican ambassador to France.

FIELD, EQUIPMENT PASS TO PANAMANIAN CONTROL

PA222305 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Jan 83 p 2

[Text] In compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties, as of 1 October 1982 the U.S. Government turned over to Panama the Curundu transmission field, containing several antennas.

In a joint operation by National Guardmen -- headed by Maj Arnulfo Castrejon, chief of the institution's communications department -- U.S. Air Force personnel and workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification, the antennas were taken down, for later installation across the nation.

The task of taking the antennas down showed the level of professionalism of the National Guard communications technicians and the permanent cooperation between Panamanian and U.S. citizens in complying with the Torrijos-Carter treaties in matters pertaining to the reversion of lands and installations.

COLONEL DIAZ HERRERA ON TREATIES, U.S. POLICY

PA230026 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Excerpt of news conference held by Col Roberto Diaz Herrera, deputy chief of the general staff and G-2 of the Panamanian National Guard, while accompanying President Ricardo de la Espriella on an official visit to Venezuela 17-18 January; broadcast on "The Piranhas" program -- date and place of news conference not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Beyond your work in seeking rapprochment between the two armed forces, what other role did you play in the talks held by Presidents Luis Herrera Campins and De la Espriella?

[Answer] My primary mission, in addition to accompanying President De la Espriella, was to reactivate -- if this is the appropriate term to use, for there has always been a good relationship between our two countries' armed forces -- to reemphasize, then, that relationship and to support the president in terms of providing any advice he might require on security. I am always prepared to give him my views and advice on this topic, since this is my speciality right now.

The two sides exchanged information on this subject. We gave information in areas of current common interest -- Central America, the Caribbean, etc. -- to the Venezuelan intelligence services and the Venezuelan Armed Forces, and they gave us information that is useful to us. This exchange has definitely been very beneficial.

[Question] Is General Paredes the strongman of Panama and will he be the next president?

[Answer] We cannot deny that this is what is being said in Panama. We would be naive to say that no politicians are talking about this. He has said on several occaions that he cannot agree to or discuss such a candidacy as long as he is the National Guard commander. He is the strongman in the National Guard in the sense that he is its commander. However, we have a president and an organized state. We have great camaraderie in the Armed Forces, just as you have here in Venezuela, and I have observed as much. There is no problem.

[Question] Former president Royo's concern is that the Torrijos-Carter treaties will not be fulfilled.

[Answer] That is always cause for tension, because Panama is small and though it signed a treaty with the United States, this is such a powerful country...[changes thought] beyond being a growing treaty, in that it passes through new phases everyday until it is completely fulfilled, this treaty is really a calendar. Thus, it is natural that such an important treaty -- important not just for Panama and the United States, but for America; it is so important that the Torrijos-Carter treaty even became a point of reference during the Malvinas war, when it was said that Argentina and the United Kingdom could have worked out such an agreement at the negotiations table. [sentence as heard]

Logically, this is a sensitive psychological matter for Panama, for its achievements are very dramatic for us. And though they are not the full achievements that Panama wanted, they are realistic achievements. So, in this context there are always some causes for problems in bilateral relations and in implementation of the treaties; they are not insurmountable obstacles. However, I personally worked in a binational organization, representing the National Guard for several months, and I believe that everything can be resolved with good faith on the part of both countries, which I feel exists now.

[Question] Is this fear about fulfillment of the treaties the reason for the rapprochment that reportedly exists between the Panamanian Armed Forces and Washington policies?

[Answer] No, No. We have a very good relationship with Washington. Naturally, the treaties require that we do so. We are like a marriage, a marriage with no quarrels now and no plans for divorce, fortunately. However, as an independent country we are not following policies dictated by Washington; absolutely not.

EFFECT OF NEW PIPELINE ON CANAL CRITICIZED

PA222239 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Jan 83 p 1

["As of Today" column]

[Text] On the day that the transisthmian pipeline was inaugurated, Panama canal deputy administrator Fernando Manfredo announced that because of the resulting petroleum shipment, the canal, already subject to reduced usage because of the world recession, will be facing substantial losses. It can be argued that Panama will receive part of the pipeline revenues, but not until the money borrowed for its construction is repaid; thus, the country will find itself deprived of its share of canal revenues at the very time when the national treasury needs it most, and without compensating income from the shipment of crude. This is an unfortunate oversight, to say the least. When the case was submitted for consideration by the legislature, the construction of the pipeline had already begun, almost secretly, without any previous legal authorization and without the national debate that the importance of the matter deserved. The meager and incomplete information that was given to the public at a late date did not allow for an in depth study of the adverse economic consequences that the pipeline would have on Panama Canal transits. Had the legislature been representative, independent, serious and responsible, it would have foreseen what Manfredo has warned us about, allowing us to demand adequate compensatory measures at the proper time.

PRD SABOTAGE OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS ALLEGED

PA240018 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] A source who chose to remain anonymous told LA PRENSA that various government groups, including some connected with the executive branch and the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), are sabotaging the work of the Constitutional Reform Commission.

The most serious problem concerns the article to reform the assembly of corregimiento representatives and create a legislation commission, to be elected directly by the people, as propounded by Gen Ruben D. Paredes on announcing the possible reforms.

However, LA PRENSA received reports that, in meetings at the presidency, the conferees have been urged not to permit these reforms to annul the people's power, the apparent aim of such a nullification being to create a political conflict between the civilian and military powers and opposition sectors.

According to our source, PRD groups are making aggressive appearances at the reform commission's public meetings, threatening its members and trying to make it appear as if there were great opposition to the proposed constitutional reforms.

Our source added that "this appears to be a move to create a difficult situation for Gen Ruben D. Paredes that could affect his presidential candidacy."

Christain Democratic Party President Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon charged that a systematic campaign in opposition to the constitutional reforms has been mounted in the last few days by a group of PRD and Peoples Party [PDP] (the Panamanian Communist Party) corregimiento representatives and legislators. Arias Calderon added that the PRD and PDP legislators and representatives who are coming out today in opposition to changes in the 1972 Constitution are not thinking of the nation's interests, but are only attempting to maintain the many privileges and advantages afforded them by the current system, at the cost of the nation's funds and without the necessary popular support.

BELIZE

PRICE LEAVES FOR 24 JAN TALKS WITH GUATEMALA, UK

FL221503 Bridgetown CANA in English 1402 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Jan 22, CANA -- Prime Minister George Price has left here for New York for another round of talks on Guatemala's claim to this former British colony. Formal talks between Belize, the British and Guatemala will begin on Monday.

The talks have been described as "exploratory" by a senior Belize Government official. Belize's position will be to seek a peaceful settlement to the Guatemalan claim to Belize without prejudice to its land and sovereignty, the official said.

The Belize delegation, which left yesterday, includes Attorney General Said Musa and Belize's Ambassador to the United Nations Robert Leslie. The British Government will be represented by two officials from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Brian Shyte and David Anderson.

The Guatemalan delegation is expected to be led by representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Mario Quinones.

Formal talks between Belize, the British and the Guatemalans broke off in July, 1981 when the decision was taken for Belize to attain its independence from Britain.

Guatemala recently announced it was dropping the long-standing claim to the whole of Belize. It is now claiming one-fifth of the country.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA TALKS WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN ON RIGHTS

PA230158 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 22 Jan 83 p 5

[Text] During a working meeting yesterday with Democratic U.S. Congressmen Roberto Torricelli and Edward F. Feighan and their several advisers, President Dr Alvaro Magana outlined the human rights progress El Salvador has made. The visitors told us the U.S. people are interested in the Salvadoran situation and how the Salvadoran authorities are trying to resolve our country's problems.

The president related how he took office under special circumstances in May 1982. Magana told the congressmen that his main goal since has been to unify the country, which was divided by the situation it was experiencing and by the political campaign that had just concluded.

President Magana told them he established the objectives that led him to adopt a national unity government in line with the positions of the various political forces during the political campaign and this led to the signing of the Apaneca pact and, later, to the creation of the political and human rights commissions. The president noted that the human rights commission is composed of representatives from the church, independent groups and the armed forces.

President Magana noted the progress that has been made in human rights in El Salvador and the procedures for correcting any deficiency in this area. The Salvadoran Government is very satisfied with the U.S. State Department certification that it will continue receiving U.S. military aid.

COPREFA ANNOUNCES GENERAL GARCIA WON'T RESIGN

PA22048 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 21 Jan 83 p 3

[Text] Neither Garcia nor Vives Casanova are resigning their posts of defense minister and general director of the national guard, respectively, it was officially announced yesterday following reports disseminated in several hemispheric countries. These rumors are merely the work of various rightist and leftist sectors that would like to see El Salvador without intelligent leadership so it can fall prey to the enemies of democracy.

The official Armed Forces Informative Organization [Armed Forces Press Committee], Coprefa, has announced that Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia will continue to head the Defense Ministry. This has already been ratified by the president of the republic, who is also commanding general of the armed forces. Apparently the news about these officials derives from the new agencies' constant speculation abroad.

Garcia Holds News Conference

PA212059 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jan 83

[News conference with Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia answering questions from unidentified U.S. legislators, on 20 January in San Salvador -- recorded, broadcast in progress; questions in English, translated into Spanish; answers in Spanish; translated into English; text taken from Spanish unless otherwise noted]

[Text] [Garcia[...some conclusion. I am at your disposal.

[Question in English] Comandante, (?unanimously and on behalf) of our delegation, (?we) must thank you for this opportunity to meet with you and talk about some of the conditions that are reported to exist in El Salvador, plus some of the conditions that we've observed over the past 2 days.

[Question] Yesterday, some of us visited a jail in San Salvador, where there are over 700 political prisoners. We understand that the number of political prisoners (?is) on the increase. This is a serious violation of human rights. We would like to hear your response to the problem of political prisoners.

[Answer] The concept of political prisoner is, of course, a relative one. Legally, I think that when there is a violation of the law, an action is committed and the law itself outlines the procedure to be followed. I would rather there be prisoners following a legal procedure, following an acceptable plan, rather than other types of human rights violations, which cause serious problems to our country. As for those you call political prisoners, I think they are there due to some legal violation. Within an overall political framework, we might accurately say that the people who are there, where you saw them, are being held according to a process that under our laws is perfectly acceptable at both the domestic and international levels.

[Question] Mr Minister, I'd like to speak to you about the 15 political leaders who were arrested recently. They were held incommunicado. Eight of them [words indistinct] in prison; seven of them have disappeared, and the eight who were held incommunicado were tortured. This is neither in line with acceptable international standards nor in accordance with the Salvadoran Constitution. [Words indistinct] missing people. However, it is very important that people who are held by this state or any state learn the charges against them and have an opportunity to defend themselves in a courtroom. The continuation of these violations is of great concern to the American people.

I know it's no surprise to you that there is a great deal of concern and controversy in the United States about continued support for El Salvador. I'd like to know if you can give us some assurance that there will be an improvement of the conditions [words indistinct]?

[Answer] First, that is a question you should ask the judges in charge of these cases, since I feel that they are directly responsible for whatever may happen since [these prisoners] are under their jurisdiction.

[Question in English] (?He's a fox). I'm talking about particular regulations that allow (?this) to happen in the first place.

[Answer] (?I will give) an example. It is easy to talk about numbers. You said 15, others said 9, others said 11 and still others said 4. I am sure that perhaps others will later say there were 40.

[Question in English] Perhaps I could get an official number from you.

[Answer] I think there were eight or nine; I'm not sure which. I do know, however, that the (?person) who detained them announced the number officially, thus (?contradicting) [words indistinct] about five missing people. I don't know whether there were eight or nine, but that was announced officially. [words indistinct] before the captures. Once turned over to the legal jurisdiction of a judge, the procedure followed falls outside our jurisdiction. As for the tortures you mentioned, I feel that this has been eliminated from our system. However, should the evidence you mention really exist, [words indistinct] can certainly be conducted to ascertain who is respon sible for those actions. Perhaps some individuals are still living in a time that El Salvador has already left behind. They are not aware of the (?current) reality. I'm not going to say that everything is fine. [Words indistinct] the effort we are currently making to improve the entire situation. This is something that the polarized sectors refuse to accept, since they are interested [passage indistinct] wearing a while or festive outfit, and return without a single stain, pure and immaculate in appearance. It is really painful to see that interest is shown in only one of the sides. The human rights violations suffered by the civilian population at the hands of the subversives often go unmentioned -- that is unimportant, that is of no interest. I would still like to tell you, lady, with all due respect that we have made and continue to make every effort to prevent any abuse of authority.

[Question in English] Mr Minister, I want to ask you a question about when these prisoners are still under the jurisdiction of the military, before they get to the judge's jurisdiction. In every case that we have talked about or listened to where a citizen of El Salvador has disappeared -- such as (Manuel de Paz), Dr (Rene Gil), [words indistinct] secretary general of the social service workers union, Dr (Carlos Vargas) and those in the prisons that we met with yesterday, such as (Carlos Molina) and others -- these are citizens that ... [Garcia interrupts]

[Answer] Mariona prison does not come under the jurisdiction of the Defense Ministry. For your information, it comes under the jurisdiction of the Justice Ministry. If you're interested, you should put these questions to the security bodies that carry out the detentions when the law is violated, just as it is done in your country, where there are specific people charged with eforcing the law. It is the same in our country. Whenever there is a situation of interference like the current one, it is necessary to counter that action. The difference is that we want to do this according to the law, while the subversives do it by violence. That is the basic difference.

You are so concerned over something with which you perhaps are not familiar -- since you are not going to tell me or impress me by claiming that after 3 or 4 days here in El Salvador you are familiar with our country's reality. It is like those who go to Paris or New York and spend 3 nights in a hotel, and then come back claiming that they are familiar with the country. I would like you to be more generally interested, rather than interested in particular issues. I think that the problem must be viewed in global terms. We, in turn, must view it within a legal framework, for this is our struggle: this is our intention, for we want to improve, not worsen, things by implementing the law and imparting justice. One should not be taken in by the subversive propaganda campaign.

I invite you to visit today, or some other day if you have the time, and investigate one of the security bodies. Learn about the procedures followed. Go visit the security forces without any prior warning [words indistinct] what branch or place in a given security body you wish to visit or where you want to go, so you may be taken there and may get to know it, so the ideas you may have that we are living in the middle ages may be dispelled. There is much prejudice, or perhaps a lack of information. However, with all due respect, I would ask you to find out more about our reality.

By way of example, I would like to ask you a question, since you know about it. A priest of the Maryknoll Order named (Bourgeois) came from the United States and, deceiving the world and the Salvadorans, passed himself off as a translator for a television network, stayed at a hotel, pretended to be sick, went to a pharmacy and disappeared.

With a previously mounted scheme of publicity, it was said that Father (Bourgeois) had disappeared, and that the armed forces were responsible. But the malevolent part of it all (?went from bad to worse) when the [words indistinct] and a body was found with the clothes and shoes of Father (Bourgeois) on it, and its head completely disfigured, and the world was told that the armed forces were responsible for Father (Bourgeois') death.

Four or 5 days later, a very repentant Father (Bourgeois) appeared, alive and healthy, and confessed that he had been in hiding, contributing in this way to discrediting not only the armed forces but an institution. However, the harm had already been done.

But now comes the question, since we want to know if you have concerned yourselves with knowing how difficult this is; the poor Salvadoran who was sacrificed -- who sacrificed him? Nobody has protested that or demanded justice just because it was a poor Salvadoran. All of us Salvadorans have a right to human rights without any distinction of any kind. We want to have no violations of any right, but in an absolute and general form, without any distinctions, without bias, as I think the conduct of every man should be.

I wish to tell you, for your information, that one of the things I personally strive for is to keep human rights from being violated in El Salvador. This has even caused me a great deal of trouble in El Salvador, but I don't care about (?consequences). We are prepared to go forward and, answering a previous question, [words indistinct] I wish to tell you that respect for human rights in El Salvador has improved lately, and we hope that everything will improve, and we hope that a tremendous effort will be undertaken not only by us but by the already appointed commission for Human Rights, which is composed of honorable people; and we hope that all Salvadorans, without any distinctions, will without exception contribute to preventing violations of human rights.

We cannot do that if people come here with prejudices and commit actions that, instead of helping, perhaps confuse or make the situation worse.

[Question in English] [Words indistinct] answer his question. One, we accept your invitation, and we will provide you with the names of the security police, and we want to do this shortly after consulting among ourselves. We would like to do that.

[Answer indistinct]

[Question in English] You could not make a greater contribution toward establishing that standard than to account and to use your efforts, and I uderstand that you are not the only one who has the power in this country and that there are others who don't share the values that we are talking about.

[Answer] We understand that [words indistinct] a show of our sincerity. I would not like you to tell us beforehand what place you want to go to. We want you to tell us 5 minutes before arriving at the place, in order for us to give the authorization, and you will be left entirely free to make the visit you wish. I hope this will contribute to your believing in us somewhat, too. If this is not so, then I feel that we are truly treading [word indistinct] paths.

Any person who is arrested is taken to the National Police, the National Guard or the Treasury Police, but primarily to the National Police, which has the means to investigate and to ensure that the legal process is carried out. I hope that if you do have an image of us troglodytes, you will completely erase any image that may have been painted for you. It is not true. On the contrary, we have a very definite improvement, and the conditions under which we have done this must be appreciated. We have a situation in which there are mercenaries and foreigners fighting against our armed forces.

I would like to tell you that, fortunately, there is a situation that is a source of satisfaction and pride to us. With pride, I want to tell you that the armed forces have the support of the Salvadoran people. If you don't believe me, stand on any street corner of any town in El Salvador and ask the first person who comes by about his opinion of the armed forces. I think you will discover the truth. Don't take my word for it.

The only thing I can tell you is to look at these pictures, which some believe were taken in some other country and some think were taken 40 years ago. This took place on 15 September of this past year. There we are, without protection, without any guard, in front of our people, the people side by side with the armed forces, voluntarily -- and we are at war. That is proof, real proof, of what is happening in our country. Sometimes false information is made up about our problems.

[Question in English] They are very impressive. General, do you mind if we return for just a moment to the subject of [words indistinct]? The people of America, who are represented by this deputation, are concerned about human rights and shocked to see [words indistinct] across the board on both sides of the political equation. It is not simply a question of our concern for injustices being carried out by your armed forces or your government. We are concerned about the injustices carried out at all times.

While we are here in the country with (?government) authorization, there are specific questions that need to be addressed. One of them is that I, as a taxpayer, feel a very great concern about continuing to spend money in a country where by the appearances -- the appearances given by the allegations we have heard -- the military is either out of control, or grave injustices, antihumanitarian practices, are being carried out with the consent of those in charge.

We have continued allegations of not only passersby, or uniformed men, but of those people being captured having been turned over to the National Police, the National Guard, Treasury Police, and the Army and in the hands of those forces being tortured. We have information about the murders of Salvadorans, about which we are concerned, and the murders of Americans, about which we are concerned. And the information indicates that it is very difficult to get an investigation, a fortright investigation, to go forward.

This draws me toward one of the conclusions I stated earlier. Either the military is out of control, or it is under control of people who agree with those practices. In order to control the population [words indistinct] the armed forces haven't internationally understood the responsibility to behave themselves in a civilized manner. The allegations I heard from you today about threats, attacks, what have you, on the bodies and families of soldiers, I repeat: and I presume, given your strong feelings of [words indistinct] will be investigated. I wonder if the same attention will be given to the claims of the people who are in jail today [words indistinct] if they have no one who feels, cares, or will act on them. And as a matter of fact they continue to exist under the charge, and under the care, if you can call it that, of the very forces that are responsible for the deaths.

[Answer] I want to answer affirmatively. This is not only what we will do, but what has already been done and what has always been done. The truth is that hundreds of members of the armed forces have been put under the jurisdiction of judges who will determine their responsibilities. Perhaps you aware of these cares. If you visit these [word indistinct], I would recommend that you obtain detailed information, with statistics, case by case, of the persons who have appeared before the law for violations.

One last thing. Since you mentioned the refugee camps, I will extend, not an invitation, but I ask you to visit other refugee camps, not only the San Jose de la Montana Camp, but the San Vicente refugee camp, if you have not been there. There you will find the other side of the coin. This will give you a complete picture. I ask that you go to se see that refugee camp. [Words indistinct] having violated human rights. The list is there, and I believe ... [leaves sentence unfinished].

[Question in English] [Words indistinct] can't solve them, because you've been kind of discuss that. But at this time, I would like for you ... [changes thought] -- as you have asked us to understand your country, I would hope you'd understand something about our country. And so I would like you to know and to respond to what it is like as a member of the United States Congress to face questions from the American people every day on the situation here. It is unclear why America has a role in El Salvador. The things that we believe in, and our country stands for -- human rights, human dignity, prosperity, freedom, peace, [words indistinct] imprisonment without charge -- those things seem to be violated. As you have said, there are violations on both sides. I accept that. How then do I say to the people of New Jersey that millions of dollars of our money and, most importantly, the most important thing that we have -- the good name of our country -- in being associated with a regime should be used here. What are the stakes for America? Why should we care who wins?

[Answer] You have seen one aspect, which is human rights. I think that we can now address other aspects, address the reality of what is happening here, what we are defending. I agree that you should be interested in what is happening here, since you are helping to resolve our problems. But I want to state that a battle is underway in El Salvador that is not only of interest to the Salvadorans, but is of very great interest to you North Americans; but we are helping to fight your battle, both in principle and in terms of the immediate future.

Within the global strategy of the Soviet Union, there is an expansionist plan seeking to take control of our countries. Geographically, we are close to you, but the true objective is not El Salvador or Central America, despite the fact that in 1932 the first armed communist rebellion of the American continent occurred in El Salvador; even so, we are not the objective. The real objective is Mexico, because Mexico for you is not the window or the door.

As I have said many times, it is an open alley for the United States, because of its wide doors. That is why the situation of Central America is important to you. Geographically speaking, we are the bridge between the North and South, geopolitcally we have an absolute unity of interests. Cuba is an island that has different conditions for exporting this plan. Nicaragua is firm ground, and is the starting point for the expansion in South America. If El Salvador falls, then Guatemala would fall, as would Honduras and all of Central America.

The problem is even greater for the United States, because as the United States has always demonstrated, rather than think of the present moment it always thinks of the future. For the security of the United States itself, I think it is to its own benefit to view with great concern what is happening in our country and in Central America. We are waging a battle that has been imposed on us by an enemy that is constantly supported by the Soviet Union. It gives it men, arms, ammunition and money without any conditions. The only condition is that they attain power to establish the type of regime I have mentioned. If this is achieved, or partly achieved, I think that you will face an even greater problem in your immediate future.

Therefore, I tell you with all due respect that if you contribute, if you aid us, you are entitled to see what is done with this aid and to what end it is being used. It also means on our part, and for our national satisfaction, that if you help us you really aid us, and not with conditions. The fact that you are so concerned that human rights must not be violated in this country undoubtedly helps our task to have a positive outcome, because it is universal to be concerned about this. Therefore, I agree that you should be concerned.

[Question in English] I know that my president agrees with you. I only hope that you understand, as we try to understand your country, that there's more to America than just the opposition of communism. America also stands for something positive and real. And if you ask for the good name of our country and dollars, then the people must believe that the things that my country stand for -- liberty and human dignity -- are at stake here, or all you're receiving are empty promises and dollars for a few years. The people will never stand with you unless they see that [word indistinct] here. Thank you.

[Answer] I completely agree with you, and within the respect due to the nations, whether they are large and powerful or weak, impoverished and small like ours, there is a principle that is also universal, and that is dignity -- both in the noble United States, which I admire in view of its grandeur, liberty and justice, and in small countries such as ours. We would also like to have that liberty, that justice and that generosity. We have done something to start to achieve that. We have shown that we can hold truly free elections, and although we do not have more than 200 years of democracy like you do, we are giving birth to democracy and we are struggling not to lose it. We are putting forth all our efforts and sacrifices to continue down the path of democracy, to continue the democratic process. But I do have to add that this is not easy; it is difficult. We are struggling against a series of obstacles, real obstacles. We are even struggling against people who oppose the democratic plan. But we have picked up the banner to counteract those that don't want freedom, the banner of justice and freedom.

Maybe someday, in a few years, we may achieve this, and we will be as big and great in dignity as the United States. Please rest assured that we are doing everything possible to continue down that road.

[Question in English] General Garcia, I appreciate your valiant attempt to protect us from communism. In the geographic scheme of things, as you indicated, Mexico stands between the United States and El Salvador and provides the window of entry of the communist [word indistinct] past you. The people of Mexico, as I understand, and the Mexican Government have called for a negotiated settlement to this conflict. May I assume that you are in agreement with the Mexican Government?

[Answer] A few minutes ago I said we were sovereign, free and independent. At no time will I say that we agree with the Mexican Government or with any other government. This would be blasphemy against the feelings of the people.

I repeat, El Salvador is free, sovereign and independent. I will not be the one to take a decision of this nature.

But I do want to add that we support, in its whole dimension, the attitude of our president in this respect. He has already made an official statement regarding this. I will repeat the statement, trying to remember some of his words, which were an official statement. This does not mean that all is completely closed or absolutely open. Our president officially has said that we have nothing to avenge, nothing to negotiate and nothing to wait for. These words merit our total support. But there is one thing that you must be made aware of; what are we going to negotiate? With whom are we going to negotiate? When will they negotiate? Where will they negotiate? What will they negotiate? Power? I don't believe power can be negotiated. Power? The power was already been negotiated. The people negotiated this power freely, as freely as you do, by voting honestly. This merits the respect of the government and the armed forces. We have had free elections and the people voted freely. This means that the people already negotiated. They negotiated openly before the world, and not secretly [words indistinct].

The elections for president of the republic will be held next year. These elections will be free and honest, and the people will once again turn out en masse, even if it means dodging bullets. We will then reaffirm our principle of democracy. Therefore, I believe it is important to analyze this point so as not to miss the chance to further democracy in El Savlador. This is what we are trying to do. This is why we are struggling. There are groups that oppose us because of this; they fight us. [words indistinct] not to convince you but to show you the reality, our reality and our problems. We are not in [word indstinct] or in the United States; we are in El Salvador, where there is a war going on, a means used to achieve power. We understand that on behalf of communism and anticommunism things have been done, and these have not been fair. We are struggling it erase this idea and image. We are struggling out in the open, in front of our peace and with our people so that there will be an understanding of the democratic system.

[Question in English] We were here 6 months ago, and we were given the opportunity to somewhat assess the military situation at that time. Today we will be visting some of the garrisons in the interior of the country, and the impression we are getting is that there is strong fighting in several departments of the country, and that a lot of friction has existed within the armed forces over the past few weeks. I wonder if you could comment on whether you feel that there has been any progress in the war in the last 6 months.

[Answer] I will try to do it briefly. As you know, we have had internal problems. There was an act of indiscipline caused by various circumstances that I don't think would be worthwhile to analyze.

But there are [word indistinct] that certainly have an influence on the armed forces' activities. I personally tell you that we are truly ashamed that these things have occurred in an armed institution. But they occurred, and we had to deal with them.

Regarding the overall military situation, I can tell you that we're now on the third year of facing a systematic attempt by the subversives to seize power. They first said that the process that El Salvador is experiencing was not going to last even 3 months. It has lasted more than 3 years and hasn't fallen apart. We have had problems. We have had negative and positive factors like any process, but the process continues. We are on the path toward finding a solution. The actions against this process were first on a verbal level, through international propaganda against the country's prestige. They were later expressed through demonstrations mainly in urban areas, trying to attract the people to the cause of subversion. The people did not respond. On the contrary, they rejected subversion. The subversives then changed to military action, which began on 10 January 1981 with the so-called final offensive [words indistinct].

Since that January offensive, there has been constant military action, which has been constantly supported by Cuba through Nicaragua. We were able to block that aid from coming overland with the cooperation that Honduras has given us in trying to control that action. We have also progressed in preventing resupply by sea with our vigilance and with equipment that the United States has given to us to be better able to fulfill our mission. What we haven't been able to counteract is resupply by air, which takes place at night. We do not have the technical capability to prevent this, due to a lack of equipment.

Various offensive actions have been carried out. Right now we are carrying one out. There is action in northern Morazan and Chalatenango. The subversives have asked the people not to circulate on the roads or they will machinegun them. I believe this has already occurred, either yesterday or this morning. They have machinegunned defenseless people traveling on the roads. This is a classic violation of human rights. But we are reacting militarily against that attitude of the subversives, and we have been able to stop that type of action. I want to tell you that the fact that we have not permitted the subversives to achieve their objective of seizing power unquestionably shows a positive reaction from the armed forces. I can state that the armed forces' action against the subversive military actions is a positive one.

[Question in English] General Garcia, my colleagues in the United States have asked that I ask you three specific things: One, when your retirement from the army comes up in a couple of months, do you plan to step aside? Second, in addition to that, and as part of the first question, will you be a candidate for president of this country? Would you be willing to turn over prisoners captured by the Salvadoran military to the Green Cross?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] that is first of all a decision for the president of the republic, and second it is a personal decision that I must make when I believe it is appropriate. As for whether I will be a presidential candidate, to be a presidential candidate you need a political party. I do not belong to any political party, and so far no political party has offered me such a candidacy. As for the transfer of the prisoners [words indistinct] and it is not conditioned to the exchange of prisoners because there is no declared war with another country; instead it is an attitude on the part of a group of Salvadorans who, serving an ideological scheme, fight against the people and government. Therefore, I don't think one can consider [words indistinct].

[Question in English] [Words indistinct] with whom you could negotiate their freedom, with whom you could negotiate their liberty to speak freely about their political beliefs. I would like to ask you specifically if you would support a mechanism for a dialogue among Salvadoran citizens only, and including in that dialogue representatives not only of the existing political administration, members of the military, but also representatives of the church, representatives of labor organizations and all other political parties, including the FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front]

[Answer] I believe that I do not have the authority to completely answer that question. The people are the authority. If they would permit me to, you can be sure that I would give you my answer. But there is an alternative to that (?other solution), and that is [word indistinct]. Instead of a negotiated solution, we propose a democratic solution in which there is complete participation of the people through elections. We have already demonstrated to the world that we have the ability to achieve [words indistinct] despite the real opposition of the bullets by the subversives [words indistinct] and entering into that type of solution. But to be more specific, with all due respect, I do not have the authority [passage indistinct]. Instead of negotiating [words indistinct] free and honest elections in which we open the escape valve so that the subversives can return, register, organize their party and participate so that the people can decide yes or no.

[Question in English] General, if the elections are not preceded by that kind of dialogue, then those political parties that are essential for an open and free election will not be able to have the kind of public expression they need during the course [words indistinct].

[Answer indistinct]

[Question in English] [Words indistinct] repression that exists at least toward some segments of Salvadoran society would prevent full participation in the elections.

[Answer] The other side of the coin is that on 28 March they said the same thing about the other political parties. Despite all the repression of the subversives against the elections, since they tried to prevent them by all means through [word indistinct] violence, frightening and terrorizing our country with bullets, the people participated in the elections. Why? Because the Salvadoran people are courageous people who love peace. Let them compete with the other parties, and just as the other parties opposed the subversive action, they can also come to compete, and they can be sure that they will be permitted to compete. But this is the only way they can show the world whether or not they have the people's support. We are giving the solution that we consider is the best within the democratic system. Therefore, I personally think that it should also be considered.

[Question in English] One last question, please. You mentioned that one of the basic problems of liquidating insurgency in El Salvador is that you do not have sufficient technology to stop the night flights from Nicaragua that are delivering arms to the insurgents. Is that a call for more military aid?

[No answer broadcast]

ARMY CLAIMS TO CONTROL TOWNSHIPS IN MORAZAN

PA221836 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1900 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires [El Salvador] -- We learned this morning that in their pacification actions members of the Belloso and Atonal Battalions have managed to control the townships of Guatajiagua, Sensembra, Yamabal, Lolotiquillo, Chilanga, Yoloaiquin, Cacaopera, Delicias de Concepcion, Osicadla, Gualococti, San Simon, San Isidro and Meanguera. All of these Morazan Department townships had been the target of guerrilla attacks.

The Armed Forces Press Committee told our reporter that army units are in northern Meanguera. He added that an example of this pacification is the fact that Guatajiagua is celebrating its traditional festivities under the protection of a 3d Brigade patrol while the brigade's band is providing the music for all the events underway in Guatajiagua.

Army Recovers Meanguera

PA221902 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 21 Jan 83 pp 2, 21

[Excerpts] Army forces have recovered Meanguera in Morazan and are controlling two other townships in the southeast.

Col Mario Enrique Acevedo, commander of the Gotera garrison said yesterday that Army troops have recovered Meanguera, located 20 km north of Gotera, and that "the guerrillas had an undetermined number of dead."

The military officer added that they also control the township of Sensembra, and Yamabal where the army is conducting an intense operation with 5,000 troops.

Meanwhile, the extremists stated that in other actions staged the day before yesterday in Usulutan Department against two Army garrisons they killed 29 soldiers, wounded 9 and 19 surrendered. They claimed that they had four casualties.

It was learned in this capital that interdepartmental bus service to the interior has been reduced considerably. The San Salvador-Usulutan route has been suspended in view of the threats by the subversives to destroy vehicles that travel the highways.

Army Casualties Reported

PA221712 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Military sources in Usulutan and Zacatecoluca confirmed today that rebels on Wednesday afternoon attacked the Army security posts near El Oro bridge and the railroad bridge in San Marcos Lempa on the border of Usulutan and San Vicente Departments. According to military reports, the army sustained no less than 20 casualties among the forces that were guarding the bridge on the Coastal Highway. The military details indicate that the casualties were mostly wounded and not dead, as the rebels reported.

Rebels' Casualties

PA222003 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 21 Jan 83 pp 2, 70

[Excerpts] A Treasury Police patrol inflicted 69 casualties (29 dead and 40 wounded) on a group of approximately 300 terrorists who were looting in Soyapango night before last. This was reported yesterday by a spokesman for that security organization on referring to a skirmish in that area.

According to official information, the dead included a tall man with long red-blond hair. He was about 30 years old and weighed 140 lbs. His eyes and complexion were light and he had a lot of freckles. He had well-manicured, uncalloused hands and was wearing an olive-drab uniform, a red and black kerchief and a beret with two stars. Judging by his features and other characteristics, the army spokesman added, "This subversive was a foreigner. His nationality could not be ascertained since he had no documents."

The Treasury Police patrol was informed, it was said, that in Soyapango near the township, an armed group estimated at around 500 to 800 were looting all kinds of establishments and stealing from passersby, threatening pedestrians with rifles and submachine-guns, mainly M-16 and FAL rifles. On learning this, Treasury Police units went to the area where they clashed with the subversives near the Morazan cigarette shop and "bodegangas." The subversives then dispersed through Soyapango, Calles de Tonacatepeque, the Plano del Pino psychiatric hospital and other points.

The Treasury Police spokesman said that after the clashes the night before last in Soyapango, during the course of the morning yesterday, Treasury policemen, along with 1st Infantry Brigade troops, continued to track the subversives down. Between 0800 and 1100, there was more action near the city of Guazapa. The rebels were forced to withdraw.

The authorities believe that the terrorists who attacked Soyapango the night before last were part of a larger contingent which planned to move on the capital to provoke disturbances and stage harassment actions against military installations on the outskirts of San Salvador.

Army Admits Railway Bridge Destroyed

PA230044 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 21 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpt] The Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, has reported that rail transport to San Miguel was again interrupted last night when terrorists destroyed the railroad bridge at km 271, El Nino canton, San Miguel Department.

San Miguel military sources said that the troops who were guarding the bridge were attacked by a large number of extremists, who later attached dynamite to the bridge. It was destroyed by the explosion. El Nino canton is 12 km west of the city of San Miguel; thus, no trains are now moving between this city and Usulutan and Zacatecoluca.

Trains were previously moving only between Zacatecoluca and San Miguel and between San Miguel and La Union, because the repair work on El Burro bridge, in Tecoluca, San Vicente Department, has not yet been completed.

More on Terrorist Casualties

PA230056 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 22 Jan 83 pp 4, 9

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, announced yesterday that 83 terrorists died in actions carried out in San Vicente and near Guazapa.

An official spokesman said there were clashes between rebels and government forces Wednesday night and at dawn Thursday. The government forces seized 9 M-16 rifles with as many clips, 200 rounds for other arms and 2 FAL clips, which were abandoned by the terrorists when they fled from the site of their planned ambush or armed forces troops.

The Coprefa spokesman said that 11 subversives died when they attacked a military patrol near Loma del Murcielago, San Vicente Department. Three others died in Los Muros, in the same department. Fifth Brigade soldiers repelled the attack and killed the extremists. An undetermined number of wounded extremists escaped from the area with their companeros' help.

The official source said the other 69 terrorist dead were reported by the Treasury Police and 1st Infantry Brigade members after a combined operation against a terrorist camp in El Salitre canton, San Jose Guayabal municipality. There has been no report on arms seized in this operation.

The Coprefa report says the government had no casualties in either operation.

According to other reports, 25 terrorists who tried to stage a harassment operation on El Cumbo hill, Tecoluca municipality, were killed by rifle fire from 5th Infantry Brigade forces headquartered in San Vicente. A military patrol was ambushed 5 days ago while moving to reinforce the military base in that sector. Seven soldiers died as a result.

The terrorists were ambushed by troops when trying to stage a new harassment action yesterday, suffering 25 dead and 15 wounded. The regional military authorities reported no Army casualties, adding that highways and rural roads are being heavily patrolled to prevent actions such as those of 4 days ago.

There are eyeswitness reports on how the extremists removed their wounded companeros in stretchers after the military patrol's successful ambush which caught the large terrorist group by suprise.

Armed Forces spokesmen reported yesterday that soldiers from the Atonal and Belloso Battalions, as well as from the 3rd Infantry Brigade, are still carrying out a mopping-up operation against the subversives.

ARENA HEADQUARTERS TARGET OF GRENADE ATTACK

PA211317 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0935 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Last night more than 20 unidentified, armed individuals attacked the central headquarters of the rightwing Nationalistic Republican Alliance (ARENA). At least two people were wounded in the incident, the police have reported. A police spokesman stated that the unidentified individuals hurled two grenades at the building and strafed it with automatic weapons before fleeing.

Roberto d'Aubuisson who heads this organization and is also president of the Constituent Assembly, was not there at the time of the attack, the spokesman added. The two wounded were identified as a security guard and a party employee.

Major d'Aubuisson, a retired Army officer, was wounded in February when he was attacked with a hand grenade during the campaign for the March elections held to choose the Constituent Assembly.

Terrorist Attack on Bus

PA221730 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] A group of FMLN rebels attacked a bus this afternoon between Suchitoto and San Martin, leaving a young girl dead and seven wounded. According to preliminary reports, during the attack the persons in the Suchitoto bus panicked; many of them left the bus. They were fired upon by the guerrillas who mistook them for civil defense members who were also in the bus. The information was given by eyewitnesses from the military garrisons of Suchitoto, 50 km east of San Salvador.

This is the first rebel attack on civilians thus fulfilling the threats announced the previous night on their clandestine radio station. Eight civilians have been victims in the attack. One of them died this afternoon in Suchitoto.

MANAGUA ANNOUNCES NEW FMLN CLANDESTINE STATION

PA221521 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Another Salvadoran guerrilla station, Radio Guazapa, has made an experimental broadcast. This station is located on the hill that bears the same name, only 20 km from San Salvador.

In its first broadcast, Radio Guazapa announced that the FMLN has obtained a secret Salvadoran Army document providing the details of a plan to attack the Guazapa volcano, in northern El Salvador. The guerrillas have occupied the volcano for the past 3 years.

Several news agencies such as AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS, AIP [AGENCIA INDEPENDIENTE DE PRENSA] and PRENSA LATINA, stressed that the FMLN has charged that the document was written on paper similar to that used by the United States in Vietnam, and that the plans were designed -- up to the very last detail -- by U.S. advisers.

The FMLN said that the plan's objective was to locate, capture and annihilate the guerrillas that have been occupying the Guazapa volcano for the past 3 years, and that the text of the plan fell into rebel hands shortly after the clashes began in the Guazapa hill area. The FMLN added that the following government forces are participating in the operation: 1,200 soldiers from the Arce Battalion assigned to the 1st Infantry Brigade of the San Carlos Garrison, the Cojutepeque Detachment and the Salvadoran National Guard.

Meanwhile, the clandestine station Radio Farabundo Marti reported yesterday that FMLN forces ambushed a column of 40 government soldiers in the Paracentral Cabanas Department. The station said that this ambush took place on Wednesday on the road from Tejutepeque to Cinquera, close to La Joya canton, some 63 km northeast of San Salvador. During the ambush, the rebels killed 2 soldiers and wounded 10.

In San Salvador the headquarters of the ultrarightist Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, was attacked the day before yesterday with rifle fire and bombs. According to the report, the attack was made from a moving vehicle and two paramilitary guards were seriously wounded. The building has been transformed into a veritable garrison.

In another action, early yesterday morning guerrillas from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front, Guazapa sector, blocked the read from San Jose las Flores to Tonacatepeque, interrupting traffic. Later, Army soldiers arrived and a 30-minute clash ensued, in which the rebels killed a soldier.

In its experimental broadcast monitored here, Radio Guazapa carried a statement from guerrilla Commander (Mauricio Carcamo) announcing the capture of a secret military document that provides the details of a plan for an operation against the Guazapa volcano.

Over this FMLN station that broadcasts on the 31-meter international band and on 100 megahertz, Commander (Carcamo) said that the plan, designed by U.S. advisers, was seized Thursday morning a few hours after the military operation it outlines had begun. We are going to air part of this morning's transmission by Radio Guazapa, which was intercepted during our monitoring of international stations. Guerrilla Commander (Mauricio Carcamo) was telling the Salvadoran people and the world about the seizure of the Salvadoran Army's secret military document.

[Begin recording in progress] [First Speaker] ...in addition to the military equipment mentioned earlier, an important secret plan for this operation that was abandoned at the theater of operations. Companero (Carcamo) is going to provide an analysis of these secret plans that were scheduled for today.

[Second speaker] [Passage indistinct] trying to evict us from this area that is under FMLN control. [Wrods indistinct] we discovered, is under the command of the Arce Special Forces Battalion, with the cooperation and support of troops from Detachment No 5 of Cojutepeque and those from a National Police school. [end recording]

You have just heard Commander (Mauricio Carcamo), of El Salvador's FMLN, via a recording made while monitoring Radio Guazapa, the third FMLN station.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER SEES COUNTRY'S IMAGE IMPROVING

PA231538 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola believes that important progress has been made in improving Guatemala's image abroad and its international relations. He said that the recent visits by high-ranking representatives of the U.S. Congress and the State Department to verify the situation in Guatemala have been very positive.

Castillo Arriola said he was certain that the reports submitted by the U.S. officials will be very favorable to Guatemala, because this has already been confirmed by some reports received from the United States.

The foreign minister recalled that the government has followed an open policy toward the international news media, that the same conduct has been followed with those foreign sectors that have most harshly criticized Guatemala, and that these are becoming convinced of the favorable changes that are taking place.

The foreign minister also recalled that one of the government's foreign policy objectives has been to recover the ground lost in such relations, which is gradually being accomplished. He said that in this context the image problem has been given priority.

TWO KILLED, SEVERAL INJURED IN TERRORIST ATTACKS

PA222302 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Several terrorist incidents took place in Guatemala city last night in which two persons were killed and several wounded, according to preliminary information obtained at the scene of the incidents. Shortly after 1900, unidentified persons fired shots at the entrance to the general army garrison at the end of 5th Street in Zone 1. The soldiers on guard repelled the attack and the attackers fled.

Two police substations in (El Gallito) and the Atlantida neighborhood were attacked with smallarms fire, grenades and Molotov cocktails. One policeman in a patrol car in Zone 12 was also attacked and killed by terrorists.

Before dawn today the authorities again set up checkpoints in several parts of Guatemala City. At the Belize bridge the police have been searching all cars entering or leaving the city since the early hours.

Unidentified persons attacked (El Gallito) police substation in Zone 3, wounding two. One policeman was shot several times in the legs and a man in a private pickup, identified as German Lopez y Lopez, was shot once in the head. The wounded were transferred to different hospitals.

Several heavily armed men attacked the National Police substation in the Atlantida residential area in Zone 18, leaving an unidentified person dead and one policeman wounded. Security police arrived at the scene to protect the substation.

It was reported that the man killed in Zone 18 was not identified because the justice of the peace could find no papers. The wounded policeman was taken to a hospital.

Several unidentified persons attacked a police car in Zone 12 at 29th Street and 3d Avenue. The moving patrol car was shot at several times. One policeman was killed.

Armed Clash in Quiche

PA240037 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1657 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Twelve guerrillas were killed in a clash with a military patrol in the hamlet of Xalbal in Quiche Department, the armed forces reported today. An Army Public Relations Office Communique reported that the confrontation took place on 19 January.

The patrol seized a large amount of arms and ammunition, along with medicines, food, clothing and leftist propaganda. The camp where the guerrillas had obtained their supplies was destroyed, the official report indicated.

Violence in the western part of Guatemala has been on the increase this year. These clashes, according to the army, "fall within a clean-up operation that the regime has been conducting in this region since December 1982."

HONDURAS

NICARAGUAN PLANES REPORTEDLY VIOLATE AIRSPACE

PA211439 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Jan 83

[By Marco Tulio Romero]

[Text] The Sandinist air force constantly enters Gracias a Dios Department for surveillance. Such action should be rejected by the Honduran Government. As a result of this Nicaraguan action, flights from Tegucigalpa to Puerto Lempira and other important places in the region take longer because the pilots who dare fly to that sector change their course so that they will fly several kilometers away from the Nicaraguan border region which is under strict surveillance by FSLN troops. One of the pilots who made a recent flight over the area reported that the Nicaraguan Air Force recently dropped bombs on the banks of the Patuca River. The results of that action are so far unknown.

As a result of this situation, flights from Tegucigalpa to Puerto Lempira and other airports take 30 minutes longer. The events have led to the periodic cancellation of flights to the region and only a few pilots and companies dare to schedule flights to the Mosquitia. The Nicaraguan Government's attitude increases the isolation of that region as Radio America's press department has reported in the past.

SANDINIST ATTACK ON BORDER POST PROTESTED

PA231816 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has lodged a strong protest against the Nicaraguan Government for the 12 January attack by Nicaraguan troops on the Cifuentes border post, El Paraiso Department, on Honduran territory. The protest note was delivered to the Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras, who was asked to deliver the note to his government.

The Honduran note says that provocations and attacks on our armed forces, civilian authorities and residents in the border zone by members of the Sandinist army have increased considerably this January. The note says that these attacks only confirm the Nicaraguan Government's desire to complicate and worsen its relations with Honduras, perhaps with the intention of worsening the situation which the Nicaraguan Government could therefore use to its advantage for unknown political objectives.

Finally, the Honduran protest note urges the Nicaraguan Government to honor its alleged peace-loving position by putting an end once and for all to its aggression against Honduran territory and citizens.

MANEUVERS TO BE HELD 20-30 KM FROM NICARAGUA

PA212107 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Puerto Lempira will be the operations center for the joint military maneuvers that Honduras and the United States will hold soon. The maneuvers will extend up to 20 km from the Nicaraguan border, it was officially reported today. Approximately 4,000 Honduran soldiers will participate in the exercises. They include about 1,000 troops of the Mocoron Fort located 60 km east of Puerto Lempira, according to Maj (Bustillos Murcia), public relations chief of the armed forces.

The Mocoron Fort was built during the maneuvers that Honduras and the United States carried out from 21 August to 5 September 1982. These maneuvers included the transfer of an infantry battalion from the center of the country to the remote and abandoned Honduran Mosquitia.

Maj (Bustillos Murcia) said today that the maneuvers will be held on 1-6 February in an area 20-30 km from the Nicaraguan border. Puerto Lempira is a community of about 5,000 people located on the banks of the Caratasca Lagoon on the Atlantic coast, some 120 km from the Nicaraguan border.

NICARAGUA

STATION COMMENTS ON JOINT EXERCISE, EXPLANATION

PA222315 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] The Honduran Government has said the joint U.S.-Honduran military exercises to be held 1-6 February in Mosquitia, a region bordering Nicaragua, are for the purpose of training the Honduran Armed Forces to make them more professional.

Two transport ships will be used in these exercises, which coincide with the birthday of Anastasio Somoza Garcia, founder of the Somozist dictatorship and murderer of the general of free men, Augusto Cesar Sandino. Each of the two ships will have two landing craft that will transport most of the U.S. contingent.

Close to 7,000 U.S. and Honduran troops will participate, in addition to Hercules C-130 planes and (DAS-SAC) light planes for reconnaissance flights.

Nicaragua has charged that the joint U.S.-Honduran exercises are intended to intimidate the Nicaraguan people and to support the counterrevolutionary bands that operate from Honduras.

HONDURAS CALLED 'MAINLINE U.S. MILITARY BASE'

PA230246 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jan 83

["Behind the News" feature: "Honduras, a Mainline U.S. Military Base"]

[Text] The forthcoming joint U.S.-Honduran military exercises, the largest of their kind to be staged in the region, once more demonstrate the escalating U.S. intervention in Central America through the use of Honduras as a base. Since entering the White House, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has tried to unleash a regional military conflict in Central America as the best way to face the struggle of the Salvadoran and Guatemalan people and the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

Within this escalating intervention, which intensifies daily, Honduras has been turning into a mainline U.S. military base, as planned by the Pentagon's strategists of terror. The Big Pine military exercises, which will be staged 1-6 February by 7,000 troops of both armies, consist of recovering in 6 days an infantry battalion's installations occupied by an enemy force only 15 km from the northern Nicaraguan border.

This very area, known as Mosquitia, has been militarized by the Honduran Government, but not to prevent attacks and incursions by the former Somozist national guardsmen established there. This is proven by the frequency and intensity of the counter-revolutionary actions that have been staged against Nicaragua since 1980.

Nevertheless, the Honduran Government has repeatedly denied that any Somozist camps exist in its territory, and with a certain cynicism 2 days ago invited the Central American countries, including Nicaragua, to send observers to the military exercises. With justifiable indignation, Nicaragua rejected the invitation.

Three days ago, Nicaragua vigorously charged in the United Nations that these exercises are being held to intimidate the country, to support the 6,000 Somozist guards established along the Honduran border and to provide the conditions for a larger attack. Nevertheless, the Sandinist government has called for prudence from the United States, seeking an end to the threat and use of force in order to prevent a regional conflagration. It has urged the United States to find a peaceful solution to the regional conflict instead. This position has received support from the majority of Third World countries and important European governments. Meanwhile, the isolation of the Reagan administration increases, along with its militarism.

COMMITTEE SEEKS UN MEDIATION ON 'BIG PINE'

PA222339 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan peace committee has sent a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar requesting urgent measures to ensure that the U.S. and Honduran Governments respect the rules of international law. The request is in direct reference to the Big Pine military maneuvers, which will be staged in February by some 7,000 U.S. and Honduran soldiers near the Nicaraguan border.

The committee has labeled the maneuvers another provocation of the Nicaraguan revolution and an act of support for the counterrevolutonary forces operating from Honduras. The request expresses the assurance that UN efforts can find a peaceful solution to the present Central American crisis, as the military attacks on the Nicaraguan people have already claimed hundreds of victims.

HAVANA CITES BORGE ON 'BIG PINE' MANEUVERS

PA220438 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge charged in Managua that the U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers slated for February near the Nicaraguan border will surely encourage the bands of former Somozist Guardsmen and the Honduran Army. In a statement to foreign reporters, Borge said that all the U.S. weapons used in past joint operations of the two countries were later turned over to the Honduran Army to strengthen its military capacity and ability to carry out a war outside the country.

The February maneuvers, he added, could be a diversionary operation so counterrevolutionary bands can enter Nicaragua through other sectors of the border.

Tomas Borge emphasized that it would be best to end this kind of war exercise, as they threaten to trigger a serious confrontation in the Central American area.

The Nicaraguan interior minister denied the existence of Salvadoran revolutionary camps in the country. He also denied that the Sandinist government is providing material aid to the FMLN. On the other hand, he noted, Washington does not officially deny openly sending weapons to the Salvadoran regime and the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries operating from Honduras.

Station Protests 'Big Pine'

PA221532 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Editorial by Station Director (Carlos Jose Guadamuz)]

[Text] The Big Pine maneuvers by the U.S. and Honduran Armies, scheduled to begin on 1 February, are an additional provocation, of the type systematically practiced by these two governments against our revolution. Several of these exercises will be staged a scant 15 km from our border and will include U.S. soldiers.

These maneuvers are not only intended to intimidate us, but also to support the Somozist forces that operate from Honduras. Viewed in this manner, nobody can deny the Reagan administration's degree of participation and interference against our people. Much evidence of the aggressive and interventionist U.S. policy against Nicaragua has been provided. Even so, they are still brazen enough to argue that we are the warmongers who threaten our neighbors' territorial integrity, etc.

In order to make the Yankee-Honduran performance even more cynical, they were bold enough to invite our government to observe these maneuvers. In other words, our ministers and officials were to go to the aggressor's terrain to watch those who every day kill Nicaraguans and kill children -- and this is what makes them so contemptible and unforgivable -- deploying their forces and coordinating their actions.

Despite the openness of this entire aggressive action against Nicaragua, certain sectors and elements here in the country have not only tried to minimize the danger of military intervention against our sovereignty, but also enjoy the counterrevolutionary actions and even dare mock the martyrs savagely killed by the Somozist guardsmen in thousands of ways. A case in point is the newspaper LA PRENSA, where they resort to the most incredible things to mock our people's scrrow in the face of the killing of our children and workers, all of whom were civilians engaged in productive activities. These sectors act like this because they are confident that their sole strength of their salvation, their last resource for survival, lies with a direct and full-scale aggression against our homeland. They are convinced that this is the only solution. The forget, however, our people's courage and our determination to win, for only yesterday Commander Humberto Ortega said that the war against Nicaragua will not end in our capital, but in that of the aggressors.

FORMER ENVOY TO U.S. CHARGED WITH THEFT

PA221445 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Washington -- Francisco Fiallos Navarro, former Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, has admitted that he has control of $618,516, which he took from a Nicaraguan Embassy account in December, prior to resigning. Nicaraguan Justice Minister Carlos Arguello announced this, adding that Former Ambassador Fiallos Navarro has offered to return the money if he is not tried for his action. Minister Arguello said that all the information on Fiallos Navarro's situation has been turned over to a U.S. Government prosecuting attorney along with the Nicaraguan Government's accusation, so that the former diplomat can be tried for stealing this money.

SANDINIST RIGHTS GROUP DENIES REPORT ON ABUSES

PA231517 Paris AFP in Spanish 0035 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Text] Managua, 22 Jan (AFP) -- Today the pro-government Nicaraguan Human Rights Commission rejected a report from Freedom House, a U.S. humanitarian group. The report charged that human rights at various levels are persistently violated in Nicaragua.

Leonte Herdocia, the commission's president, said that the charges of "unexplained deaths, executions and illegal arrests, mistreatment and disappearances as well as attacks on the freedoms of expression, education and organization and the persecution of political parties" under the Sandinist regime are false.

Herdocia attacked Freedom House for making the charges which are based on reports of the opposition's Permanent Human Rights Commission of Nicaragua. That group's president lives in exile.

Herdocia said that reports from the Permanent Human Rights Commission have been "dropped" [word indistinct] by well-known international organizations such as the UN Human Rights Committee and the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission.

Herdocia recalled that the OAS commission had visited Nicaragua twice after 1979 and that its reports "have neither condemned nor accused the Sandinist government of violating human rights." "We are not living under an angelic regime, but such slander is not true," said Herdocia.

He also denied that in Nicaragua there are from 7,000 to 7,500 political prisoners, noting that only 2,400 former Somozist guardsmen, who were legally tried and sentenced, are serving time in prison.

Herdocia commented that the Sandinist government has never tried to deny that in the days immediately following the revolutionary victory there were some abuses of human rights, which were promptly controlled. It was, he added, "a situation that was described as inevitable by the international organizations." Herdocia accused the commission cited in the Freedom House report of trying to blame the Sandinist government for abuses by the ousted Somozist dictatorship.

COSTA RICAN DEPUTIES PAY VISIT EN ROUTE HOME

PA221525 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica should not be worsened by the inaccurate reports that reach us from this beautiful country through ill-intentioned sources, said the Costa Rican deputies who stayed here 4 days, visiting various locations. The deputies were en route home from Cuba. The Costa Rican parliamentarians are leaving with a very good impression about the freedom they found in both Nicaragua and Cuba to investigate anything they deemed interesting, without restrictions of any kind.

Here is the statement of Deputy Guillermo Vargas, representative of Costa Rica's ruling National Liberation Party:

[Begin recording] I am sure that the realities of the Cuban and Nicaraguan situations are distorted in my country. What we saw is better than what we are told by the media. I think that it is only fair to acknowledge the fact that the Cuban regime has achieved many important things while developing its revolution. It would seem that, through their revolution, the Nicaraguan people are also in the process of achieving similarly important victories in terms of their development.

We leave, grateful of both the Cuban and Nicaraguan companeros who gave us their hospitality. Apparently the general feeling among the members of our delegation is that upon returning, and despite the fact that ours was not an official visit, we would like to contribute both individually and collectively to the normalization of the relations between two fraternal countries: Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Many of us, perhaps the majority, are committed to making a positive contribution so that Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans can again become the fraternal peoples they have traditionally been. Thank you very much. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT NATIONALIZES SOAP, OIL, FLOUR

PA230250 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Jan 83

["Text" of decree issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua in Managua on 21 January 1983]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government issues the following decree nationalizing edible oils and fats: Whereas:

Article 1. It is the duty of the state to guarantee the effective distribution and marketing of staples for the people.

Article 2. The interaction between producer and consumer obstructs the poor sectors' access to the staples specified in Article 1 below, creating shortages in these staples and artificially high prices.

Therefore: Article 1. The distribution and marketing of edible oils and fats, flour and soap are hereby nationalized and reserved exclusively for the state, which will implement them through the Domestic Trade Ministry.

Article 2. The Domestic Trade Ministry will issue regulations to enforce this decree and is empowered to designate an organization or state corporation under its management to implement the nationalization specified herein.

Article 3. This decree will be effective as of its publication in any mass communication media, regardless of its subsequent publication in the Official Gazette.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES U.S. ON NICARAGUA POLICY

PA210440 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 20 Jan 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The imperialist U.S. Government has clearly shown its criminal nature. Washington has never hesitated to use force or carry out any dirty maneuver in order to defend its political and economic interests, wherever they were being threatened. History confirms this. There are many examples of open and brazen imperialist intervention against the peoples of the world. Just in our America, there are dozens of cases where the imperialists have ousted or imposed governments and ordered the murder of presidents and outstanding political leaders in order to preserve their necolonialist domination.

The United States does not heed the protests of international public opinion calling for a stop to its aggressive and destabilizing actions. In this way, the U.S. rulers violate international agreements and treaties. They pay no attention to the demands of international organizations such as the United Nations and treat contemptuously the most elemental rules of human coexistence.

The Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau recently ended in Managua, Nicaragua. During the meeting, foreign ministers from over 90 countries strongly condemned the imperialist threats and aggressions against Central America and especially against the people of Nicaragua. One portion of the final declaration approved at the Managua meeting directly condemned the financing of covert actions and the utilization of territory in the United States or countries neighboring Nicaragua to train counterrevolutionary forces.

In addition, the document denounces the violation of Nicaraguan airspace and territorial waters by U.S. planes and ships. These violations have resulted in terrorist actions, armed attacks, the destruction of bridges, sabotage and other actions aimed at overthrowing the Sandinist revolutionary government. These actions have cost Nicaragua more than 400 people dead, wounded or kidnapped, in addition to large material losses.

The nonaligned countries' foreign ministers particularly condemned the systematic attacks by armed groups of former Somozist guards against Nicaragua across the Honduran border. They emphasized that these actions are part of a deliberate plan to harass and destabilize Nicaragua, as the United States has publicly admitted.

Barely 48 hours had passed after this document was approved when there was news of another criminal action by these anti-Sandinist groups supported by Washington. This time it was the murder of a 13-year-old girl, an innocent victim who fell during an ambush laid by the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries against coffee pickers in Nueva Segovia Department. The attack, which took place barely 400 meters from the Honduran border, was conducted by 60 heavily armed former Somozist guards. Fifteen other people were wounded during this criminal attack. A report published by the Managua paper BARRICADA said that the attackers received artillery support from Honduras when they withdrew from Nicaraguan territory.

This reconfirms what has been constantly charged: military, political and economic aid are given by the Tegucigalpa regime and the U.S. Government to the anti-Sandinist groups. They both refuse to establish a dialogue with the Nicaraguan Government. They do not want peace. Washington and Tegucigalpa irresponsibly continue stoking the fire in Central America with the intention of humiliating the Sandinist revolution and destroying the national liberation movements. However, that confrontation, which is undoubtedly costly and sorrowful for the nations, has already been lost by imperialism and its allies.

HAVANA ANALYZES ARMY, GUERRILLA SITUATIONS

PA202141 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 19 Jan 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Nineteen eighty-two was a year of consolidation and strengthening of the Salvadoran people's insurgency in both the military and political sectors. The FMLN currently controls an area of about 1,200 square km and close to 20 towns. At the same time, there are increasing signs of demoralization and loss of initiative within the repressive army. To this, one must add the fight for power within the top leadership of the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

The differences among the Salvadoran Army leadership reached a crisis recently when Lt Col Sigifredo Ochoa, military commander of Cabanas Department, rebelled. He refused to leave his post and be transferred as military attache to Uruguay. In this way, he was disobeying the orders of Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia.

If one analyzes this insubordination due to apparent disagreements about a post, one can see that the problem does not only include the two officers but also Alvaro Magana, the leader of the regime, and former Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, the president of the Constituent Assembly.

Ochoa, commander of the U.S.-trained Cobra Counterinsurgency Battalion, is considered by the U.S. adviders who operate in Salvadoran territory as one of the most capable army officers and the one who best implemented the counterinsurgency tactics suggested by Washington. At the same time, in the political sphere, Lt Col Sigifredo Ochoa is a man who blindly follows the orders of former Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, the leader of the extreme rightwing Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, and founder of the paramilitary bands that sow terror throughout the national territory. These bands are responsible for countless assassinations and masterminded the death of San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero in 1981.

Various Salvadoran political sectors accuse d'Aubuisson and Ochoa of opposing a reform program promoted by the U.S. Government and supported by Defense Minister Garcia and Alvaro Magana. This reform program, which was begun in 1980, unsuccessfully seeks to improve the army's repressive image and obtain the people's support in order to try and defeat the guerrillas. It is evident that the measure was taken in the face of the obvious successes of the guerrilla forces, which began 1983 with a new offensive named "January Revolutionary Heroes" in Canabas Department, headquarters of Ochoa's military command.

Radio Venceremos, the rebels' station, said that in the first 9 days of that offensive in Cabanas and other regions, 3 towns were occupied for several hours, 12 soldiers were killed and 52 others were captured and 92 weapons were seized. Radio Venceremos also said that the dispute between Ochoa and Garcia is a fight between assassins eager for power and incapable of stopping, either united or separated, the guerrilla offensive. The voice of the FMLN also said that Ochoa is one of the most corrupt army officers, a coordinator of the death squads and a partner of D'Aubuisson who promotes an escalation of military violence with mass bombings and the massacre of entire communities, with the view that army actions could cost about 200,000 lives but would eradicate the guerrilla problem.

The recent crisis in the Salvadoran military leadership, in which Ochoa kept up his rebellion for almost a week, showed not only the increasing disputes within the armed forces but also showed that no high-ranking military or government leader was able to control the situation.

Ochoa's insubordination also showed the worsening of the conflict within the Salvadoran Government and Army, which are frequently defeated by the guerrilla movement that is drawing closer with giant strides to the final victory.

FMLN Advances Cited

PA231721 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 22 Jan 83

["Our America" Commentary]

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has sustained almost 70 casualties since the FMLN launched the new January Revolutionary Heroes guerrilla offensive a week ago. The government troops have been unable to stop the vigorous advance of the rebel troops in the northern part of the country, particularly in Chalatenango and Morazan Departments, where the FMLN has more than 20 towns under its control.

The principal armed actions are taking place only 17 km from San Francisco Gotera, the capital of Morazan Department. Thousands of soldiers are defending this important city that is virtually besieged by the guerrillas. Special troops from the counter-insurgency Atlacatl, Atonal and Ramon Belloso Battalions are stationed here under the direction of U.S. advisers.

For these forces the situation turned particularly difficult after the insurgents blew up the strategic bridge over the Torola River. This isolated Morazan Department and other areas in the country's north. The Salvadoran dictatorship ordered the bombing of extensive areas near San Francisco Gotera to support the besieged troops. As always happens, the defenseless civilian population was the principal victim of the air force machineguns and bombs. It was reported that more than 50 women and children were killed or wounded in the intense and indiscriminate bombings.

The advance of the guerrilla forces continues at great speed. The FMLN said that the insurgent offensive includes the sabotage of highways, military positions and strategic objectives of the dictatorship. The purpose of these actions is to obstruct troop movements as well as the transportation of supplies and ammunition.

In Washington, Ruben Zamora, member of the political and diplomatic commission of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front, said that in the near future the rebel groups will stage struggle in the most densely populated areas of El Salvador. He confirmed that the regime is no longer defending northern El Salvador. Zamora said that, in effect the Salvadoran Army has accepted the fact that it cannot defeat the guerrillas in the north and is behaving in a completely defensive manner. He added that the problems within the armed forces are getting more complicated every day following the insubordination of Col Sigifrido Ochoa, chief of the Sensuntepeque military garrison, who eventually left his post and is now attending a counterinsurgency school in the United States.

Recently, former Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the so-called Salvadoran Constituent Assembly, demanded an investigation of the charges lodged against him by Defense Minister Gen Guillermo Garcia. Garcia had charged that D'Aubuisson was promoting a coup d'etat. D'Aubuisson told the press that General Garcia involved him in an alleged coup d'etat together with Col Sigifredo Ochoa. The former major added that the defense minister's charge endangers the government's political stability.

If we add that every day there are more military desertions and units that simply refuse to fight, it is easy to understand the deterioration that is taking place in the top Salvadoran military leadership today. All this will unquestionably speed up the victory of the revolutionary forces in this heroic country of our America, a victory that can already be glimpsed through the smoke of gunpowder.

HAITI

POLICE CHIEF RELIEVED OF COMMAND, REPLACED

FL212025 Bridgetown CANA in English 2011 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Jan 21, CANA-REUTER -- Haiti's police chief, Colonel Acazidius St Louis has been relieved of his command and replaced by Colonel Albert Pierre, a government statement said today. No reason was given for the change, which took effect yesterday. But diplomatic sources speculated it was related to the escape from house arrest last week of Sylvio Claude, a prominent opponent of Haiti's President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier.

Before his new appointment Colonel Pierre was head of the Political Police Commission.

EXILES EXPRESS CONCERN FOR CLAUDE'S LIFE

PA210445 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] (Mack Chalfee), spokesman for Haitian exiles in Montreal, has expressed in that city his concern that the Duvalier regime may kill Sylvio and Marie France Claude, leaders of Christian Democrat Party in Haiti.

(Chalfee) recalled that after being arrested, tried and sentenced in Port au Prince, Sylvio was placed under house arrest and had to report to a police station every day. He added that Sylvio and his daughter, Marie France, surely decided to go underground in order to protect their lives. In this case, he warned, the dictatorship wants to apply the escaped convict law and has ordered the police to shoot them on sight.

JAMAICA

MANUFACTURERS CRITICIZE GOVERNMENT MEASURES

FL201735 Bridgetown CANA in English 1705 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 20, CANA -- Jamaica manufacturers have begun to balk at some of the measures introduced by the government two weeks ago with the declaration that they would provide producers with easier access to foreign exchange to import raw materials, thus helping to spur export production.

Jamaica Manufacturers Association (JMA) President Anthony Williams, at an association board meeting, said that under the measures announced by the administration suppliers credit would dry up except for imports at the official exchange rate and lead to the demand for "cash up-front."

The key element of the government's strategy was the formalisation of the parallel currency market, effectively creating a tiered exchange rate for the Jamaican currency. At the official level, the Jamaican dollar remains pegged to the U.S. currency at 1.78 dollars (JCA) to one American dollar, but this exchange rate is for essential imports as listed by the government, certain payments and raw materials for export production. Other imports will be at (higher) parallel market rates set by commercial banks, subject to supply and demand.

Said Mr Williams: "It is with a sense of deep concern and regret that we have noted the fact that except for items to be imported at the official rate, there is no provision for us to continue benefitting from overseas suppliers credit."

He noted that the measures were said to be aimed at helping manufacturers and as such, his association would not allow efforts that had been made to restore suppliers credit "to go down the drain."

The JMA president added: "The new measures will not only lead to our inability to use suppliers credit but the banks will now demand cash up front in order that they may issue the required undertakings prior to the trade board issuing the necessary import permits.

"This means that importers are now being asked to put up 100 percent guarantees for all goods...excluding those on the official rate of exchange."

Mr Williams said that the JMA did not believe the economy should operate on such cash basis and that it had asked the government to have another look at the situation.

ASSOCIATION OPENS TRADE OFFICES IN HONG KONG

FL212300 Bridgetown CANA in English 2220 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 21, CANA -- Jamaica's foreign trade minister, Hugh Shearer, has announced the opening of trade offices in Jamaica and Hong Kong as part of a series of initiatives to promote closer trade relations with the Far East on a basis beneficial to Jamaica.

These initiatives have come out of discussions held in December between the Jamaica National Export Corporation (JNEC) and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) whose executive director, Len Dunning paid a five-day visit to the island.

Mr Dunning's visit was itself a follow-up to a trade mission to the Far Wast in mid-1982, led by Industry and Commerce Minister Douglas Vaz, and including JNEC and Jamaican National Investment Promotion (JNIP) chairman, Carlton Alexander.

"We can now begin work on the first major face-to-face encounter between our respective business communities," Mr Shearer said today, speaking at the JNEC's monthly board meeting.

The deputy prime minister announced that a team of 40 leading Hong Kong businessmen would be in Miami on March 15 for the official opening of the Hong Kong council's new office there. The HKTDC and JNEC had agreed to have a large Jamaica trade mission meet with the Hong Kong businessmen at that time, he reported.

The practical objective is to have full and detailed negotiations on the representation by Hong Kong entrepreneurs of Jamaican products throughout the Caribbean where Jamaican businessmen have special expertise," Mr Shearer said.

"In addition there is a real potential for Hong Kong businessmen to enter into joint ventures with Jamaican partners to serve worldwide markets on a basis beneficial to Jamaica," he stated.

Mr Shearer said that cooperation between the two national export organisations would also extend to the provision of industrial consultants by the HKTDC, the first of whom will arrive in Jamaica this weekend, and to JNEC assistance to the Hong Kong Council in designing, developing and implementing an export training programme on the JNEC model.